

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

The Messenger

60 School St.
Saco, Maine 04072
207 282-0062
uuchurch@gwi.net



Our colorful church yard

August Worship Services

Summer worship services continue in the Parish Hall from 8:30-9:00 AM. These will be shorter, lay-led services. This is an opportunity to maintain connection as we enjoy the summer. Regular worship will resume on Sunday, September 8th at 9:00 AM. (Church will be closed on September 1st for the Labor Day holiday weekend.)

Aug. 4	Never Say Can't	Anne Dobson
Aug. 11	Kindness	Niki Norman
Aug. 18	TBD	Alphabet Soup
Aug. 25	Seeking Solace	Anne Cyr

August Teasers

page 2 Join Rev. Shay's informal conversations at church

page 5 Read about our Capital Campaign and other building repairs

page 7 Info. about upcoming church picnics and an Oct. sanctuary concert

page 10 See photos of church family happenings

page 11 Read about Paula H.'s prayer shawl ministry

*The main thing is that you're
showing up, that you're here
and that you're finding ever
more capacity to love this world
because it will not be healed
without that.*

-Joanna Macy -

UU's are Creative; we see it all the time. Send us photos of your creative work - painting, baking, sculpting, song-writing, dancing, knitting, gardening - whatever you do - and we'll feature you on our UU's are Creative page in a future Messenger.

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

Shay's Musings



The Power of We – Let's Talk!

In my sermon on June 16th I gave you all an assignment: over the summer, think about who we are as a community, who we want to be in the world around us, and where we have to think about things differently in order to thrive?

How can we take the ingredients we have at hand and create new possibilities with them? Where can we experiment in order to be more vital and vibrant? Where can we take some risks in order to encourage new life within ourselves and our community?

I want to hear what you all came up with! And I want to hear about you. Bring your ideas and questions and concerns and let's talk. Let's check-in with each other and ourselves before we launch into the new church-year and make sure we're at least headed in the same direction!

Come to one or all of these informal conversations at the church:

Tuesday, August 13th at 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 13th at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 14th at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 14th at 4:00 p.m.

I look forward to seeing you!

During my times away, I will not be responding to emails or interacting with regular church business, *however, I am always available for emergencies* – both church related, like the building burns down (knock on wood), and personal emergencies.

Here is how you can contact me while I am away – I will respond as soon as I am able:

Call and leave a voicemail and/or Text Message me at (207) 518-8059

Here's my schedule for August.

July 29th – Aug 4th

On Study Leave

August 5th – 29th

I am available full-time, as usual.

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)

**Save the
date!**

**Rev. Shay's
installation
will be held on
October 6 at
4:00 p.m.**

*Thoughts
from our
Board
President,
Al Casad*



I am writing this following our Sunday Congregational Meeting. I want to again thank all of you who chose to come to church on the hottest day of the year to discuss and vote on the roof and cupola repair. I think there was a very good discussion with questions about the best way forward with the roof and cupola repairs. There was also concern expressed about taking a loan out instead of self-financing the repairs using our endowment funds as well as other suggestions for paying for the repairs. In the end, those present supported making the repairs to the roof and cupola and funding those repairs through a loan.

On August 10, we will have an opportunity to spend some time with members of the Sanford Church at Ferry Beach State Park. I am looking forward to the event, some socializing, a shared picnic potluck and a walk on the beach.

I know that there are people in our congregation having personal struggles this summer and I hope that you find comfort and support in our loving community.

Love and Peace,
Al

UUCSB

Board President:

Al Casad

Vice President:

Ron Hiser

Secretary:

Pat Snyder

Treasurer:

Wendy Coleman

Collector:

Betsey Pace

At Large:

Mogens Ravn

Susan Young

Laurie Sivonen

Isa Ahmed



Susan Young



Laurie Sivonen

Isa Ahmed



The BoT welcomes
three new members:

**Thank
You**

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.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				7:00 Alphabet Soup	10:00 Coffee & Carbs Offsite	9:00 Meditation
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30 Worship Anne D. Parish Hall Panera Bread	4:30 Bon Appetit Offsite	11:00-2:00 Rev. Shay Office hours 5:00 Weight Watchers 5:30 Member/Welcom. 7:30 Coven Off Site	8:00 Weight Watchers 6:30 CoM 11:00-5:00 Rev. Shay Office Hours 6:30 Finance	7:00 Alphabet Soup	10:00 Coffee & Carbs Offsite	9:00 Meditation 11:00-3:00 JUCSB/SUUC family picnic
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30 Worship Niki N. Parish Hall		11:00-2:00 Rev. Shay Office Hours 1:00 and 6:00 conver- Sations with Rev. Shay 5:00 Weight Watchers 7:30 Coven Off Site	8:00 Weight Watchers 9:00 and 4:00 conver- Sations with Rev. Shay 11:00-5:00 Rev. Shay Office Hours 6:30 BoT	7:00 Alphabet Soup	10:00 Coffee & Carbs Offsite	9:00 Meditation
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 Worship Alphabet Soup Parish Hall 11:00-4:00 Alphabet Soup picnic Panera		11:00-2:00 Rev. Shay Office Hours 5:00 Weight Watchers 7:30 Coven Off Site	8:00 Weight Watchers 11:00-5:00 Rev. Shay Office Hours	7:00 Alphabet Soup Messenger deadline for submissions	10:00 Coffee & Carbs Offsite	9:00 Meditation
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:30 Worship Anne C. Parish Hall		11:00-2:00 Rev. Shay Office Hours 5:00 Weight Watchers 7:30 Coven Off Site	8:00 Weight Watchers 11:00-5:00 Rev. Shay Office Hours	Alphabet Soup	10:00 Coffee & Carbs Offsite	9:00 Meditation



Building News



B&G:

PatS.

Jane P.

Maestro,

Anne D.

Betsey P.



Capital Campaign Update August 2019

YAY! YAY! YAY! Work has begun...

If you've driven by the church lately, you might have noticed two things...

1. an orange barrier around the Parish Hall. The skirting has been removed to allow for the clean-out and the structural engineer (SE) to evaluate and recommend how to shore-up the Parish Hall. The SE has given us his recommendations, the project has been put out for three bids, and the clean-out will begin late summer or early fall.

2. a missing window at the entrance to the Sanctuary; this has been removed, replaced with plywood, and is now being restored.

Note: Other church repairs have been identified that the B&G committee is addressing. The question has been asked, "Why can't CC funds be used?"

Three years ago a list of CC projects was presented to church members at the Annual Meeting and voted on by the congregation. The new issues that B&G is addressing are NOT part of the CC list of projects.

CC funds are only for CC projects; and our funds are very limited. With our goal of \$350,000 our current CC pledges are \$75,765. The two above projects will use most of the money. We still have some other big projects to address especially the repair/restoration of the Sanctuary windows. Stay tuned...

Around the Building

B&G has been working with the Finance Committee and the Board to figure out how to pay for some not anticipated, but very necessary repairs.

1. We had planned to use money from our last fiscal year to pay for our final big electrical up date. Unfortunately our contractor got ill and we had to put off that work.
2. In the process of getting quotes to replace some lost shingles, it was brought to our attention that the back annex roof is in dire straights and that the siding around our steeple stump has come loose.
3. We will meet with the furnace guys on July 24 to talk about the possible issue with our main circulating pump.

The B&G budget for these kinds repairs is about \$5500 a year - and for a awhile this year, due to a shortfall in pledges; we weren't even sure of that amount.

Armed with the information about our pressing needs, B&G met with the Finance Committee to see if they could recommend ways to fund these projects. They recommended that a loan be secured for up to \$15,000 to cover the costs. Mind you, B&G budget would be tapped before we used any other money.

This information was conveyed to Al Casad, who immediately called a special Board meeting where after discussion, the Board endorsed this plan. And directly following that meeting a special congregational meeting was called for July 21.

On July 21, the congregation approved this plan. We will keep you up to date on the progress of these repairs. We urge you to contact Jane P., Betsey P. or Anne D. with questions and up-dates. Stay tuned!



Music Ministry Team

Seeking folks interested in moving the music program forward in the coming years. What would you like to see added to our Music Ministry?

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!

Morning Song:

Before one service 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. Dates and times of upcoming 'Morning Song' will be in the Friday Flyer towards the end of the month.



Singing by the Sea: Just returning from a week of 'ChoralFest' at Ferry Beach. It always reminds me of how wonderful it is to join in a singing community and share our voices. We rehearsed 4 hours every day interspersed with walks on the beach, lying in the sun, pretending the water was warm enough to swim in (and thus swimming in the frigid Atlantic), eating lots of ice cream, and sharing special moments with the other conferees, especially the men of GAYLA. The week culminated with the ChoralFest singers providing music for the Friday morning chapel service. Nary a dry eye was there in the grove that morning as we sang from the heart to touch one another at the deepest soul level through words and song.

I am called to sing; are you? I am called to sing in community; are you? I am called to lead voices in song. I hope you'll join me this year.



Choir Rehearsals: All who love to sing are welcome to be part of the choir. We will be having a special choir gathering in mid to late August or early September. Details will be in the Friday Flyer and an email sent to all who are on my choir email list.

Our usual rehearsal times are 10:15 – 11:45 on Sunday mornings (immediately after the church service) and at 8:30 for a brief rehearsal before a service on the days that we sing. We will sing in cycles as we did last year (relating to Rev. Shays worship themes), making it easier for people to commit to a certain number of weeks at a time rather than for the entire church year. A full schedule will be available by late August.

Coming Events

**Alphabet Soup Annual
Friends and Family Picnic**
Sunday, August 18, 2019 –
11:00 am – 4:00 pm -

At Ferry Beach State Park
Open to all. Join us for a
fun packed day filled with food,
swimming, playing games, and
socializing. Hamburgers and
Hotdogs will be provided.
Bring picnic entrees and/or
desserts to share.

Invite your friends and
family to join us.

Admission: Gate fee only.



Yes, we want to hear from you!
We are planning a **Sanctuary Concert on Oct. 19**. This
fundraising concert will feature UUCSB's own talented
musicians, poets, and authors - an evening we call,
"UUnited by Words and Song." **Please contact Ellie R. if
you would like to solo or be in an ensemble or Donna B.
if you have a poem or other brief writing to share out
loud.** And..... we're asking all of you to mark your
calendars; let's fill the sanctuary pews - with you, your
friends, your neighbors!

We would love your help in putting on this concert -
baking, selling refreshments, set up, clean up, promotion
of concert, decorations, etc. Please let Donna B. or Ellie R.
know if you will help make this a UUnited event!



Coming Soon - Our combined UUCSB and SUUC
church Fun and Food Picnic will be held on Saturday,
August 10th, from 11:00am to 3:00pm, at Ferry Beach
State Park, 95 Bayview Road in Saco.

Maine residents 65 and over and children under the
age of 5 are not charged an entrance fee; \$5.00 for
other adults; ages 5-11 are \$1.00 each. Join with our
Sanford Sister Church family for fun in the sun,
fellowship, and lunch. Grills are available for burgers,
hot dogs, and the like. Please bring a side dish or
dessert to share as we come together this summer.



Read all
about it!

What's Up?

Re. Messenger Deadlines

FYI: Each month an email blast goes out to members and friends on the 15th, asking for your contributions by the 22nd. Your editor (Donna) prepares the newsletter and sends it to Brian on the 29th. You can count on it!



Caring Connection

Whew! Summer seemed to arrive late, fast, and hot. Although the weather is lovely, several church members are facing serious and scary health issues. Our Caring Connection group has coordinated support, cards, and visits, and we ask you all to hold our beloved congregation in your thoughts. Thanks to everyone who has reached out. Please continue to call on us if you know of someone in need. See you soon! Marilyn C., Anne C., Donna R., Gloria S., & Pat S.



So What's In the Archives Anyway?

So here I was, browsing at the Farmer's Market when I was drawn to a pillow of pastel Sweet Peas. What's a girl to do when confronted by such a display? Well, this girl just buried her nose in them. In nano seconds I was 5 again, helping my Gramp with his garden. Time travel of the best kind.

That's what is in the Archives. Time travel. We have minutes and sermons and photos of events and programs and

Looking for help? We have lots of stuff just about anything that churches do or did. (Our 2019-2020 Canvass team used our files about past canvasses to develop its plan and supporting materials.)

Come visit our Archives. Beam me up Scottie!!

Anne D.



Retirement looks good on both Anne W. and Matt G.





We meet at The Unitarian Universalist Church
of Saco & Biddeford, 60 School Street, Saco, ME
For more information contact Tom Muise at tmansmk49@gmail.com

Alphabet Soup - August, 2019 Calendar of Events

Please note: Some events may change

Pot Luck Dinner for Alphabet Soup

Theme: Dining Out

Thursday, Aug. 1, 2019 – 7:00 – 9:00 PM – Location: UUCSB

We will meet at the Church and car pool together and head off to Mulligan's. Please bring a friend, must RSVP by Tuesday, July 30. To Tom at tmansmk49@gmail.com.

Leader: Tom - **Admission:** Depends on what you order.

Board Game Night

Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019 – 7:00 – 9:00 pm - Location: UUCSB

Join us for a fun packed evening playing a board game and socializing. Beverages will be provided, just please bring snacks to share.

Leader: Brian/Mark - **Admission:** FREE

SAGE Dinner

Thursday, Aug. 15, 2019 - 7:00 - 9:00 - Location UUCSB

We will join SAGE in Portland for their monthly dinner. We will meet at the Church at 5:00 p.m. and carpool. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$6 or \$8, depending on your age. RSVP by Monday, Aug. 12, so we can get a head count to SAGE..

Morning Worship Service

Sunday, Aug. 18, 2019 - 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. - Location UUCSB

We will lead the morning worship service for UUCSB. This is a half hour service.

Leader: All members

Annual Friends and Family Picnic

Sunday, Aug. 18, 2019 - 11:00 am - 4:00 pm - Location: Ferry Beach State Park

Join us for a fun packed day, filled with food, swimming, and playing a few games and socializing. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Please bring picnic entrees and desserts to share. This is open to everyone.

Leader: Tom/Brian/Mark - **Admission:** gate fee only

Board Game Night

Thursday, August 22, 2019 - 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. Bring snacks to share.

Leader: Brian/Mark - **Admission:** free

Gay Themed Movie Night

Thursday, Aug. 29, 2019 – 7:00 – 9:00 pm - Location: UUCSB

Bring a friend 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.

Leader: Brian Admission: FREE

Potluck Dinner for Alphabet Soup

Theme: Fall Kickoff

Thursday, Sept. 5, 2019 - 7:00 - 9:00 PM - Location: UUCSB

Bring a friend an an entree, salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Meat will be provided

Leader: Tom Admission: FREE

Recent church family happenings



Matt, celebrating his retirement from USM with Sonja, daughters, Tasha and Melise, along with other family, colleagues, and church members



Susan's and Mark's son, Joe, performing at a Doings for Dollars event



Dick S. was honored at a special Ocean Park event. He is, indeed, "Mr. Ocean Park."



Anne W., retired from teaching in Saco, celebrating with family, friends, and church members

Dorinne Sp (R) touring Anne C.'s gardens and picking flowers for another Doings for Dollars event.



Potpourri

A Prayer Shawl Ministry Group used to meet regularly to create beautiful shawls and give them to members of our church and greater community. That group doesn't currently meet, but Paula Howard has her own Prayer Shawl Ministry. We look forward to blessing the creations of her hands and are grateful for her spiritual and practical practice.



In Paula's words:

I started knitting prayer shawls shortly after I returned to the church in Saco. Living so far away, it is difficult to get to weekly or nightly events. So, I asked about the shawls and decided it was actually something I could do. I became more and more aware of the people around me and how many, for different reasons, could benefit from having a shawl. I'm not sure who benefits more, the person who knits the shawl, or the person receiving it.

I have a high school friend who was recently diagnosed with cancer. I had just finished a shawl and was trying to decide which yarn and color I should use for a shawl for her. That day, I received a package, from another high school friend, that contained 3 skeins of a multi colored yarn. My decision was made. Agnes called me the day she received the shawl in the mail. She said she was just overwhelmed. She had been praying for the ability to make a decision concerning whether or not she should go forward with the chemo treatments. Once she opened the package, she said she knew her prayers had been answered. Now I was overwhelmed.

She has now gone through several treatments (wrapped in her shawl) and was told last week that the treatments are doing their job!

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.



Post It!



UU Post It Notes

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

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.

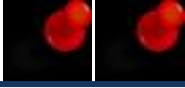
In spite of our good intentions, folks still put non recyclable stuff in the recycling bins - **used saran wrap, returnable bottles, Styrofoam containers and, my personal favorite - used facial tissue!**

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

Thank you. Anne D.



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



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.



Greetings from the Treasurer

Account balances as of 7/25/19 are as follows:

Checking	\$ 9,603.04
Accounts payable	\$ 37.14
Moulton Trust	\$ 1,716.38
Restricted Savings	\$ 18,764.28
Saco/Bidd Investments	\$139,405.41



Any questions, just call.
Sincerely, Wendy C.

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!