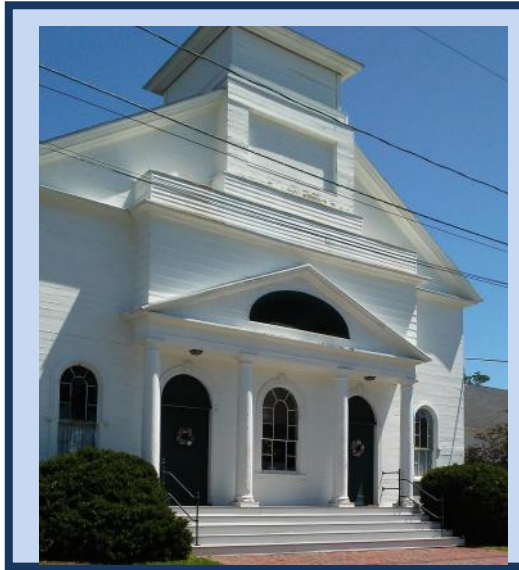


The Messenger

December
2019

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

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



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December Worship Services

- December 1st — Rev. Laurence Miller
- December 8th — Rev. Shay
"God of the Wild"
- December 15th — Rev. Shay — An All Ages Service
"The Myths that Made Us"
- December 16th — Rev. Shay — Vespers, 7:00 p.m.
- December 22nd — Rev. Shay
"A Winter Solstice Service"
- December 24th — Rev. Shay
Christmas Eve Service, 5:00 p.m.
- December 29th — Faith in Action

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

Shay's Musings



“God of many names and mystery beyond all our naming,” begins a prayer by UU minister Rev. Daniel Kanter. Muslims sing the 99 names of Allah, believing them to be outward signs of the universe’s inner mysteries. In Judaism, names convey the nature and essence of things, represent the history and reputation of what they name, and therefore, G-d’s names in all of their forms are treated with great respect and reverence. The Christian God is infinite and incomprehensible and so metaphors, given in divine revelation, are used to name that God, allowing God to be revealed to humans in finite and comprehensible ways. And as we explore the many beautiful and mysterious deities of paganism and earth-centered traditions this month, let us remember that no name for the Holy is any more or less sacred than any other.

I read somewhere once that for Unitarian Universalists, the names we use for the sacred and holy represent the vision of our highest values and hopes. If this is true, then regardless of whether you believe in an actual deity (or several), regardless of whether you believe in an interested God or no God, regardless of what you believe about something or someone larger than us moving throughout all of creation – if this is true, then when we say “God,” deep down, beneath all metaphor, we are naming the same thing.

What would our song of the names of God sound like?

Adolfo Quezada writes, “God of the Wild, you are different from what I expected. I cannot predict you. You are too free to be captured for the sake of my understanding. You are everywhere I least expect to find you.”

Let us explore the ancient and powerful Names of this wild, unpredictable thing that is hidden in all of our secret places. Let us reclaim these words that may have alienated us, wounded us, distanced us from each other and ourselves. Let us reclaim and redefine the All Things and the Nothing that God represents. Let us sing together the many names of that which we hold sacred.

Here is where you'll find me this Fall:

UUCSB Office hours:

Mondays 9:00-12:00

Tuesdays 9:00-12:00
(and other various times by appt,)

Brown Bag Suppers

You are invited to bring your own supper and join me at the church for casual conversation twice a month: on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

3rd Monday Vespers 7:00 p.m.

A vespers service is an evening worship/prayer service, usually more contemplative than a Sunday morning service. Once a month, I will be leading a 45 minute vespers in the Parish Hall – a time for music, poetry, and meditation. All are welcome.

Our Sister Church

Visit our sister church's website at <http://www.sanforduuchurch.org>

*Thoughts
from our
Board
President,
Al Casad*



UUCSB

Board President:

Al Casad

Vice President:

Ron Hiser

Secretary:

Pat Snyder

Treasurer:

Wendy Coleman

Collector:

Betsey Pace

At Large:

Isa Ahmed

Laurie Sivonen

Mogens Ravn

Susan Young

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.

Sitting upstairs in the church while the holiday fair is rock'n away downstairs. I'm, as usual, a day late in getting this message written but, I am so happy to see the fair doing so well. The energy in this old church is terrific, people are streaming in the door, music is playing and a joyful mood permeates the air. Anne Wilkinson overheard visitors commenting on how pretty this fair is and that it is the most fun of all the fairs today and that was before they had lunch! I am guessing that we will be breaking records today on funds raised and that is important. What is more important in my mind is the community coming together in this effort, the women of this church who have been working hard to come together and pull this successful event off. The positive, happy vibe and the community at large coming to visit, makes me glad to be a part of this group of UU's.

We are in the midst of a congregational conversation about making some changes to the Sanctuary in an effort to make it a more family friendly space. The plan to remove some pews and in the resulting open space have a place for young children amuse themselves so their parents can be with us for worship has won support from many and concern from others. I can appreciate the fact that multigenerational services means there will be disruption at times and that removing pews will change the character of our Sanctuary. Furthermore, making these changes gives no guarantee that young families will join us. I do remember as a very young child sitting in a pew with my baby sister and parents. In fact, being part of the worship service left quite an impression on me. I think that sort of experience is a useful one and prompted me to want my children to have the same early experience of a community of kindred spirits. The discussion will hopefully help us to develop a clear sense of the correct direction to take. Your ideas and thoughts are important. Please feel free to email me or call to share your thoughts. On a related note, the nursery has now been setup with a speaker so parents can have a place of quiet for a child(ren) and still hear what is happening in the Sanctuary.

The holidays are coming fast and I hope you all find peace, comfort and joy.

Best,

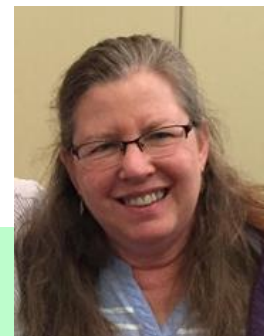
Al

Do you have a last name?

In the past we have had a policy of using only the first name and first letter of the last name of individuals in communications. Currently, we mostly stick with that but sometimes last names appear (as they do on this page). The Board of Trustees is evaluating this policy. Would you be opposed to including last names in communications such as the Messenger, the Friday Flier, emails, etc.? Not using them creates a guessing game especially for new people trying to associate names and persons. In this digital age it is nearly impossible to maintain anonymity. Do we really achieve that by hiding last names? What are your thoughts? Please email me at mravn2@gmail.com.

- Mogens Ravn

Music Notes from Choir Director, Ellie R.



This year in my 'Music Notes' I am sharing with you some of the poetry of my songs and the story behind the words if there is one. My songs typically center on the interconnectedness of all beings and my hope for a peaceful coexistence with all.

Sometimes I hear a tune in my head that just won't go away. This particular tune sounded like something from my Jewish roots. Those first few notes became a clarinet part around which the rest of the song was written.

Holidays & Holy Days, Copyright 2005

Verse 1: Holidays are near and the days are getting shorter
Nights are getting longer and green fields are draped in white.
We celebrate the Christ for the wisdom that he brought us.
We celebrate the candles for the miracle of light.*

Refrain: Holidays and holy days, wintertime and solstice
Candles burning brightly light our way through darkest nights.

Verse 2: Holidays are near and the days are getting shorter
Candles in the windows and gold stars atop the trees
We gather with our family for the comfort that it brings us
We gather in community and sing in harmony.

*Optional words for the last 2 lines of verse 1:

We celebrate with gifts and good tidings for our neighbors.
We celebrate the candles for the miracle of light.

Choir Rehearsals

All who love to sing are welcome to be part of the choir. December has more rehearsals as we prepare for the holidays. We rehearse at 10:15 on 12/1, 12/8 and 12/15; 8:30 on 12/22 and we sing in church; 3:00 on 12/24 and we sing on Christmas Eve. Would you like to sing just for Christmas, let me know and plan on being at rehearsals beginning 12/1.

Morning Song

Before the service on the 2nd 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. This month it falls on December 8.

Music in Our Community

Support our choir members and friends of the church by going to a holiday concert this month:

- Sea Change Choral (Margaret M.) Friday, December 6 outside Reny's, Congress Street Portland, 5:00 ish- 'Singing for Socks' (socks collected will be donated to Preble Street)
- Alumni Band (Nate C.) Saturday, 12/7 at 7:00, Biddeford Middle School Auditorium
- Tri City Community Chorus (Matt G.), Sunday, 12/8 at 3:30, First Parish Congregational Church, Saco
- Voices in Harmony Choirs (Jeannine W.) Friday, 12/13 at 7:30 and Saturday, 12/14 at 2:00 Trinity Episcopal Church, Saco
- Maine Pops Concert Band (Nate C.) Sunday, 12/15 TBD PM, St. Luke's Cathedral, Portland
- Renaissance Voices (Niki N., Steve R., Jim B.) Saturday 12/21 at 7:30 and Sunday 12/22 at 2:00, St. Luke's Church Portland

For more information please contact me directly at choir@uuchurchsacobiddeford.com.

Day Camp for Mature People D.A.M.P.

We are developing the idea of a Day Camp for Adults to be presented to the local community this summer. The Board of Trustees has given the nod to our moving forward with this proposal. Here are some details that we are considering so far.

1. Purpose - Outreach to the community.
2. Mission - To celebrate and honor the mature segment of our diverse larger community.
3. Proposed dates: June 22 to July 3, 2020.
4. Audience - Any person in the community who would like to get out of their usual routine and join us for learning and possibly a bit of fun. Participants would need to be ADL and self care independent. We would not provide transportation.
5. Fees: A nominal registration fee would be asked as well as a materials fee for some of the sessions.
6. Sessions: Some of the sessions that have been discussed are a movie series, art projects, tell me your story, cooking, staged readings, mah jong, bridge, watercolors, coloring, laughing yoga, Saco Museum visit, financial issues, aging spirit, singing and Eastern Trail walk. We do have volunteers to lead some of these sessions already.
7. How can you help:
 - Volunteer to help with getting the word out (We have liaisons to the Wardwell, and Atlantic Heights. The UUCSB is a member of the local Chamber of Commerce so we have a start.)
 - Volunteer to distribute and collect registrations.
 - Help with scheduling and other logistics.
 - Help lead a session or two. Think of the skills you or other members of the congregation have that would be wonderful additions to our day camp program.
8. Come to a meeting on Monday, Jan. 6 at 10:00 in the Green Room at the UUCSB. We'll be fleshing out this idea and adding your ideas and talent to this program. Perhaps we can all come up with a better name for this exciting program!!!!

FMI: Jane P., Donna B., Betsey P. or Anne D.

Around B&G (Buildings & Grounds)

Around B&G, we have been preparing for winter, which has arrived rather suddenly this year. Two of our projects for this season are to get that railing installed on our walkway and caulk the Sanctuary windows, which are literally falling out. In both instances, numerous calls to the folks with whom we contracted to do these things have resulted in promises, but to date no activity. This has caused much gnashing of teeth and tearing out of hair by our B&G crew.

Matt G. has renewed his work on the Parish Hall windows. Completing this project has been a real "pane"; but we are now moving ahead.

The Monday morning crew is still at work. Here's what we do now. Tom keeps the youth room reasonably under control, Jane is responsible for the Sanctuary, Pat. S. works on the Parlor, Betsey keeps the bathrooms sparkling, and Anne D. does trash, vacuuming and picking up of all other areas. We share special project like window insert installation and painting.

If you would like to take on a special area or project, let Betsey, Jane P., or Anne D. know. We could use a person to keep the kitchen organized, do painting, tidy the Nursery and the RE room.... Let us know if you can help.

- Anne D.

What is the Caring Connection?

We are church members who help bridge the gap between the caring people in our congregation and those in our church community who are going through difficult times.

Once we learn who needs short-term assistance, we solicit support from the congregation to help provide basic services.

Please get in touch with us at uuchurch@gwi.net We'll contact you by phone or email as you wish. The Caring Connection: Marilyn C., Anne C., Donna R., Gloria S., and Pat S.



Sunday mornings are....

Sunday mornings are a time for us to gather together, share what is happening in our lives and to participate in a meaningful service that enriches us in some way – through laughter, spirituality, intellectual challenge and many other ways. We are blessed to have Reverend Shay to lead us in most of the services, however, your Worship Committee is charged with “filling the pulpit” for the remaining Sundays.

In addition to “filling the pulpit” the Worship Committee should be meeting with Reverend Shay, our Sanford counterparts and checking in with you – our members and friends – to determine the direction of our worship.

We are four people (Sonja G., Tom M., Niki N., Jane P.) who step up to the plate and thus far have not dropped the ball, but we rarely meet. For the past two years we have missed having a chair person to hold us together and ensure that conversations happen in addition to emails, that we are looking forward in concert with Reverend Shay, and that we are well connected with our congregation.

Please talk to one of us to find out how you can join doing this important work.

The Worship Associates participated in the Sunday Worship Service on November 10.



Worship Associates Nicky N., Jane P., Donna R., Sonja G., and Anne C.



Faith in Action Team
UUCSB's Social Justice Center



It's Not Politics, It's JUSTICE!

Our country, which has enormous power to affect the rest of the world, is in big trouble. If the mere mention of this makes you want to move to another topic, you may have already fallen victim to the effects of the campaign to confuse, discourage and exhaust voters who want to be engaged and discerning.

We have a big ask: reflect on the 12 principles of the Poor People's Campaign below. Really read. Really reflect. How do these principles align with our UU principles and values? What reactions did you experience while reading? Can you see a place for yourself in this campaign?

1. We are rooted in a moral analysis based on our deepest religious and constitutional values that demand justice for all. Moral revival is necessary to save the heart and soul of our democracy.
2. We are committed to lifting up and deepening the leadership of those most affected by systemic racism, poverty, the war economy, and ecological devastation and to building unity across lines of division.
3. We believe in the dismantling of unjust criminalization systems that exploit poor communities and communities of color and the transformation of the "War Economy" into a "Peace Economy" that values all humanity.
4. We believe that equal protection under the law is non-negotiable.
5. We believe that people should not live in or die from poverty in the richest nation ever to exist. Blaming the poor and claiming that the United States does not have an abundance of resources to overcome poverty are false narratives used to perpetuate economic exploitation, exclusion, and deep inequality.
6. We recognize the centrality of systemic racism in maintaining economic oppression must be named, detailed and exposed empirically, morally and spiritually. Poverty and economic inequality cannot be understood apart from a society built on white supremacy.
7. We aim to shift the distorted moral narrative often promoted by religious extremists in the nation from issues like prayer in school, abortion, and gun rights to one that is concerned with how our society treats the poor, those on the margins, the least of these, women, LGBTQIA folks, workers, immigrants, the disabled and the sick; equality and representation under the law; and the desire for peace, love and harmony within and among nations.
8. We will build up the power of people and state-based movements to serve as a vehicle for a powerful moral movement in the country and to transform the political, economic and moral structures of our society.
9. We recognize the need to organize at the state and local level—many of the most regressive policies are being passed at the state level, and these policies will have long and lasting effect, past even executive orders. The movement is not from above but below.
10. We will do our work in a non-partisan way—no elected officials or candidates get the stage or serve on the State Organizing Committee of the Campaign. This is not about left and right, Democrat or Republican but about right and wrong.
11. We uphold the need to do a season of sustained moral direct action as a way to break through the tweets and shift the moral narrative. We are demonstrating the power of people coming together across issues and geography and putting our bodies on the line to the issues that are affecting us all.
12. The Campaign and all its Participants and Endorsers embrace nonviolence. Violent tactics or actions will not be tolerated.

Learn more about the Poor People's Campaign <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/demands/>
 Learn more about UU the Vote: <https://www.uua.org/justice/vote2020>



The Fair raised
about \$4000.

Our Holiday Fair

Granny's Attic



Raffle Baskets



*Thanks to all who
made this fair possible!*



Bling for sale



Yummy baked goods



Our SUUC friends



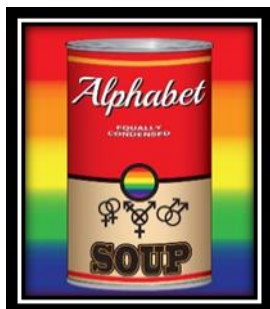
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
9am Worship 10:15 Choir Rehearsal World AIDS Day	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours 4pm Bon Appetite Offsite	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours 5pm Weight Watchers	8am Weight Watchers 5-6pm Brown Bag 6:30pm Committee on Ministries 6:30pm Finance 7pm Harbor Singers	6pm Alphabet Soup Holiday Festival	10am Coffee & Carbs Offsite	9am Meditation Group 4pm Memorial Service
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9am Worship 10:15 Choir Rehearsal 10:15 FIAT	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours 5pm Weight Watchers	8am Weight Watchers 6:30pm Board of Trustees 7pm Harbor Singers	6pm Alphabet Soup	10am Coffee & Carbs Offsite	9am Meditation Group
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9am Worship 10:15 Choir Rehearsal	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours 7-8pm Vespers Parish Hall	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours 5pm Weight Watchers	8am Weight Watchers 5-6pm Brown Bag 7pm Harbor Singers	6pm Alphabet Soup	10am Coffee & Carbs Offsite	9am Meditation Group
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9am Worship Beginning of Hanukkah Messenger Deadline	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours 5pm Christmas Eve Service	Christmas	6pm Alphabet Soup	10am Coffee & Carbs Offsite	9am Meditation Group
29	30	31				
9am Worship	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours	9-12 Rev. Shay Office Hours New Years Eve				

Please send us dates of your committee meetings and/or other dates for the Messenger calendar.

Upcoming Events

Jan. 4—Clothing Swap

February 1, 2020—UUCSB Auction



Alphabet Soup - December Calendar of Events

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

Please Note that some events may change.

Theme: Holiday Festival — Thursday, December 5, 2019 – 7:00 – 9:00 PM – Location: UUCSB

Let's make it a great big one. Bring foods that you would find at a Holiday Festival. Please bring a friend and bring an entrée, salad, side dish, or a dessert to share. Try to think of all the Holiday's in December, not just Christmas. Let's make this fun. A Ham will be provided.

Leader: Tom **Admission:** FREE



Board Game Night — Thursday, December 12, 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, just please bring snacks to share.

Leader: Mark **Admission:** FREE

SAGE Dinner — Thursday, December 19, 2019

We will be joining SAGE in Portland, Maine for their Monthly Dinner. We will be meeting at the Church at 5:00 PM and carpool. Dinner at 6:00 PM. The cost is under \$6.00 or \$8.00 each depending on your age. RSVP by Monday, so that we can get a head count to SAGE .

Movie Night — Thursday, December 26, 2019 – 7:00 – 9:00 pm - Location: UUCSB

Bring a friend or two and join us for a fun evening with Brian's Movie Night. Beverages will be provided, just please bring snacks to share.

Leader: Brian **Admission:** FREE

Theme: New Year's Dinner — Thursday, January 2, 2019 – 7:00 – 9:00 PM – Location: UUCSB

Let's make it a great big one. Bring foods that you would find at a New Year's Eve Dinner. Please bring a friend and bring an entrée, salad, side dish, or a dessert to share. Try to think of a New Year's Eve Dinner. Let's make this fun. The Meat will be provided.

Leader: Tom **Admission:** FREE

Alphabet Soup Anniversary and Thanksgiving Dinner on November 7th.



Socializing before dinner.



Tom setting up.



Enjoying the dinner.

Share the Plate: Share the Leadership

Each month a designated charity receives 1/2 of the money collection in our Sunday services. For the past several years FiAT has been responsible for selecting recipients of our shared collection. Although a variety of organizations have received our donation, a small number of people have had a very big influence on deciding who will benefit. We would like to follow the lead of the UUA to dismantle hierarchical leadership structures, "decentralizing" the leadership of this element. You are invited to share this leadership.

If you have an organization or cause that is dear to you or that you believe would welcome a donation, put it forwards. Provide a blurb of explanation for the Friday Flier, the Messenger and the order of service. If you are able, you could write a sort of testimonial about the impact the organization has had on your life or about the value you personally recognize. If you would be able to make a 1-2 minute presentation during a service it could be even more impactful. This personal approach will help congregants connect with the cause to maximize their support.

Will you step into leadership by advocating for a worthy cause? Share the Plate brings our name and good intentions into the community and each month an important cause gets our attention, expanding our perspective on the world around us. Please consider the agencies and organizations you know and value.

Jeannine W. will work with Rev. Shay to determine the best month to feature each recipient. Please contact them with your "nominee".

December's Share the Plate: Adoptive and Foster Families of Maine

AFFM is a statewide agency which provides many services to foster families, kinship families and families which adopt children from foster care.

Over the years our family has been supported by AFFM in many ways. They have monthly, facilitated, support groups for the parents, with childcare provided so that the youth can have time together. AFFM also provides multiple social gatherings for youth, such as holiday celebrations, special events at Ferry Beach and Fort Knox. They understand that youth benefit from knowing that they are not alone, and others are experiencing similar situations.

AFFM has clothing closets where youth in care can find stylish clothing, for free, which are donated from the community. They provide knowledgeable "Resource Parents" for foster parents who are new to the process and need support. They also maintain a resource library of helpful books, videos and audios to support foster parents.

"Whether exploring what it takes to become a resource family, looking for enrichment and training, or a helping hand through challenging experiences, AFFM offers services to meet you where you are and help you succeed." They can be found at: AFFM.net.

Brigit states: "Although some of my friends don't believe me, I was adopted from foster care. Being adopted is hard on kids, however it gives us a chance to have a better future."

- Laurie S.

The September 2019 *Share the Plate* collection raised \$226.00 for the UUCSB Minister's Discretionary Fund.

The October 2019 *Share the Plate* collection raised \$357.13 for the Maine Breast Cancer Coalition.

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

Financial Information

Greetings from the Treasurer

Account balances as of 11/21/2019 are as follows:

Checking	\$6,434.85
Accounts Payable	\$340.26
Moulton Trust	\$1,735.41
Restricted Savings	\$27,312.38
Saco/Bidd Investments	\$143,965.13



Any questions, just call.
Sincerely, Wendy C.

Panera Bread

Isa A. picks up bread and makes it available on the first and third Sunday each month. This has raised \$188.00 for the church so far this church year.

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.

\$104.50 have been raised so far this year.



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.

During the 2018 - 19 church year, \$1500 was raised.



Get your cards from
Ellie L.

Our October **Candlelight Concert** raised \$498.61.

Last year's fundraiser, **Doings for Dollars**, brought in an additional \$473.00 this year from various events.

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.

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

Don't forget to support our Little Free Pantry on our front lawn. Bring what you want; take what you need.



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.



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 and 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.

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

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!