

UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

Saco, Maine

September 11, 2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GS 2030

The Faith In Action Team has been meeting since this summer reigniting our commitment to address the climate crisis. They will lead our community to engage with the Green Sanctuary 2030 campaign that was developed by Unitarian Universalist Association. We were one of the first Churches to engage with the original Green Sanctuary movement in 2003 and revisited our commitment in 2011. We are eager to begin again, knowing what we know of the climate crisis now and of the social and racial justice effects that need a new and more ardent approach.

As part of our work to renew our Green Sanctuary accreditation, we will be holding a raffle each Sunday. The raffle "ticket" that you receive along with your OOS will enter you into a drawing to be held during coffee hour. Winner must be present to win! The winner gets to choose one of the products designed to decrease our use of plastics.

Covid-19 Guidelines

Masks are OPTIONAL inside

Masks off when speaking in pulpit area

Sit in appropriately marked pews - social distance unless in same household

Hand sanitizer stations

Social hour in the parish hall

Ushers & Flowers

We need Ushers and flower donations every Sunday. Please sign up on the schedule on the bulletin board by the restrooms. Thanks.

Hannaford Gift Cards

Ellie L. will be selling Hannaford Gift Cards in the Parish Hall on Sundays after church. If you buy your groceries with a Hannaford card, the church receives 5%. Please enter the Nursery one person at a time to purchase your cards.

Please e-mail announcements to Brian in the church office (uuchurch@gwi.net) by 10 AM the Wednesday prior to the Sunday they are to appear. Announcements will not be carried over to the next week unless you notify us no later than Wednesday. Thanks.

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TODAY IN OUR WORSHIP: Ingathering: Returning to Covenant

Rev. Dr. Lori Whittemore

Rev. Dr. Lori Whittemore is leading service this morning. In addition to serving as a contract minister for UUCSB for this worship year, she also is the executive director of Spiritual Care Services of Maine and the director of Clinical Pastoral Training Center of Southern Maine. As contract minister last winter and spring, Rev. Lori led the church on a spiritual pilgrimage inventorying the congregation's spiritual strengths and resources. This fall, along with Rev. Niki, Ellie and the music ministry, Paul the organist, and all of the worship team, she intends to explore belonging, courage, change and wonder as we consider Green Sanctuary 2030 and the 8th UUA principle of becoming intentionally anti racist. Rev. Lori lives in Saco with her husband Pieter, with various pets and offspring moving in and out. She is delighted to be with you this morning!

NEXT SUNDAY – September 18

We Belong!

Rev. Niki Norman

Rev. Niki Norman is a community chaplain and interfaith minister in southern Maine. Rev Niki graduated from and was ordained by the Chaplaincy Institute of Maine in 2020, where she currently serves as a board member. Rev Niki provides weekly interfaith services each week for the residents of St Joseph's Rehab and Residence in Portland and was honored to be the Minister of the Week at Ferry Beach in the summer of 2021. Rev Niki is a member of the UUCSB and is deeply grateful for the support from the UUCSB community. She loves people, laughter, music, cats and poetry, in no particular order!

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Greetings & Announcements – Diane Eiker

Sounding the Singing Bowl

Prelude – Paul Benya
You are invited to light a candle of remembrance.

Welcoming Words from *A River Runs Through It*

About 9/11

Choir *Enter, Rejoice, and Come In* – C. Praetorius

Lighting of the Chalice – words from Maurice Cobb

Sharing from the Heart (*Joys and Concerns*)

Prayer #123 *Spirit of Life*

Spirit of Life, come unto me;
Sing in my heart, all the stirrings of compassion,
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea,
Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close, wings set me free.
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Reading *I Want to Be With* – unknown

***Hymn #360** *Here We Have Gathered*

Gathering of the Waters

***Hymn #347** *Gather the Spirit*

Blessing of the Waters

Silent and Spoken Meditation

Reading of the Covenant

This is our sacred promise:
To gather together in peace

To seek truth in love
To serve human need
So that all shall grow in harmony with the divine.

The Work of This Church – Offertory

***Song of Gratitude and Celebration**

From all that dwell below the skies,
Let faith and hope and love arise.
Let beauty, truth and good be sung,
Through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue. Amen.

***Extinguish the Chalice**

As we release this flame
From its faithful service today
We allow the spark in each of us to burn on;
To warm our compassion,
To fire our delight
To light our paths,
Today, tomorrow and always.

***Hymn #100** *I've Got Peace Like a River*

Closing Words

Choir *We Are One* – Linda J. Smith Koehler

Postlude

This service was adapted from a service prepared by Rev.
Sue Gabrielson from September 2003

***Please stand, as you are comfortable.**

Thanks for making our worship possible:

Ushers – Anne Dobson & Laurie Sivonen
Flowers – Dorinne Spirito

Hearing assistance devices and large-print hymnals are available. Please ask an usher.