

Friday Flyer – December 9, 2022
News You Can UUse
From the UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

- **Worship This Week** – *Wonder and JOY*
- *Rev. Dr. Lori Whittemore*

- **Church Activities This Week:**

- Sunday, Dec. 11 @ 10:00 AM - Worship
- Wednesday, Dec. 14 @ 5:30 PM - Trustees
- Thursday, Dec. 15 @ 5:15 PM - SBGM – Sage (off site)

Unless indicated otherwise, these activities welcome all members and friends.

Office Hours

Minister, Rev. Lori Whittemore
Administrator, Brian Dustin

By Appointment (email: revlori.uucsb@gmail.com)
Mon-Wed-Fri –8-11 AM

Caring Needs – Please contact church office.

Upcoming Events and Activities

- **Thoughts from Rev. Lori**

Hello friends,

It is impossible to not feel joy when we contemplate the wonders of nature! I share with you today a poem by Robinson Jeffers, titled Wonder and Joy. It aligns perfectly with the message for Sunday.

The things that one grows tired of—O, be sure They are only foolish artificial things!
Can a bird ever tire of having wings?

And I, so long as life and sense endure, (Or brief be they!) shall nevermore inure My heart to the recurrence of the springs, Of gray dawns, the gracious evenings, The infinite wheeling stars. A wonder pure Must ever well within me to behold Venus decline; or great Orion, whose belt Is studded with three nails of burning gold, Ascend the winter heaven. Who never felt This wondering joy may yet be good or great:

But envy him not: he is not fortunate.

Letting go of our dwelling on artificial things and turning out attention to the miracle of creation. Looking at things through the eyes of a child. Experiencing life with a beginner's mind. The advent season is a season of approaching. I invite you to approach this day, wondering. Observe your surroundings with questions. Hold gratitude for the bounty of what surrounds you.

In our practice of lectio divina, read this passage out loud and in your head. Notice if a word or a sentence stands out to you. Reflect further on that word or phrase and ask what it has to tell you. Contemplate that word or phrase as you prepare for the weekend.

AND

Look out your window. Note three things. A tree, a bird, grass, as examples. I invite you to focus on the one thing that feels most interesting to you. Think about the pieces and parts that go into that one thing. If it is a bird, think of the wings, as the poet says.

Think of the egg it came from and the trees it must have stood on. Wonder how fast its wings flap and how long it lives. Think about how large its territory is and where it goes in winter. Go on Wikipedia and explore your questions. Cultivate a sense of wonder for the miraculous nature of creation.

Peace and Blessings

Rev Lori Whittemore, she/her

Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco Biddeford revlori.uucsb@gmail.com

- **Share the Plate – December – The Maine Way, Inc.**

This organization's goal is to provide resources and affordable housing to assist people in their transition from homelessness to independence. The Maine Way owns a house located at 73 South Street in Biddeford. The house has seven private rooms, a common kitchen and living room as well as a computer room. The private rooms provide affordable housing for qualified individuals for up to 18 months. There is a live-in manager who resides in a self-contained apartment on site. We believe this opportunity allows our residents to focus on obtaining the life skills needed to integrate themselves back into the community. Visit website <https://themaineawayinc.org/>

Please Give Generously

- The **Membership Committee** is happy to welcome interested church visitors and members to an informal meeting with Rev. Lori Whittemore after the service and coffee hour on December 11. Please join us.

- **Little Free Pantry**

During the cold weather and freezing temperatures please refrain from placing canned or glass items into the Little Free Pantry.

- **Coffee Hosts, Ushers & Flowers Needed**

We need Ushers and flower donations every Sunday. Coffee hosts are also needed to make coffee, bring snacks, and clean up. Please sign up on the schedule on the bulletin board by the restrooms. Thanks.

- **Live Stream on YouTube**

We are now live streaming our services on YouTube every Sunday at 10:00am

Feeling under the weather? Can't get to church?

Want to join the service from the comfort of your own home?

Join us live at 10:00am every Sunday on our YouTube channel

Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco-Biddeford.

(YouTube link on our web page)

- **Covid-19 Guidelines**

- Masks are OPTIONAL inside
- Hand sanitizer stations
- Social hour in the parish hall

- **Hannaford 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%.