

Friday Flyer – December 23, 2022

News You Can UUse

From the UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

- **Worship This Week** – *The Real Christmas Eve*
- *Rev. Dr. Lori Whittemore & Rev. Niki Norman*
- **Worship at 5:00 PM– December 24th**

- **Church Activities This Week:**

- Saturday, Dec. 24 @ 5:00 PM - Worship
 - Sunday, Dec. 25 – All Day - Christmas Day – Church Closed
 - Thursday, Dec. 29 @ 7:00 PM - SBGM
- 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**

Mixed Devotions

This week marks the convergence of several holidays, changes in seasons, light and darkness. It symbolizes so many things. Family, culture, faith, and rebirth. Light returning, Light persisting. For some it represents loneliness, oppression, and sadness. Whatever camp you fall in, however you feel at this time of year, it is normal, it is okay, you are welcome with us. Whatever story you subscribe to, whatever belief suits you, I invite you to go deeper this day and this year. Put yourself in the story. Be a known character or be the secondary character or observer. For our many variations of the Pagan traditions. Norse, Germanic, French, Iranian; be the host of the feast, or member of the hunt, or the Magi tending the fire. If you celebrate Kwanza, be the person who reads the values and lights the candles or someone who dresses in African clothing and dances, If you are Christian, be the shepherd tending the flocks as Mary gives birth or be the donkey in the paddock where she lay. If you celebrate Hanukkah, be an oil merchant, or a street vendor outside of the new temple. Consult grandmother google to learn more about a holiday and stand under the truth it conveys. Every holiday means something. Every holiday stands for something. Try to imagine them as if you believed them or in them. You only really get to know the fullness of something when you explore the interior of it looking out through the eyes of a true believer. I invite you to appreciate that whatever your perspective is about your own holiday or another's, you are not alone in your feelings this season. Whether that is in our sanctuary or on You tube or out in the world. You are not alone. Whatever you feel, you belong to something much larger than yourself. You belong. I wish you the very best this week as you experience the big emotions of the season. It bears repeating. You are not alone and you belong. May you know peace, joy, love, hope and wonder through it all!

“I was gifted this song by a friend and colleague that he wrote and recorded for the season. He gave me permission to share it with all of you! Please enjoy this piece by the Rev. Craig Worth of Nottingham UU Church.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9dwASFTnPqI>

With Peace and Many Blessings

Rev Lori Whittlemore, she/her

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

- **Holiday Services – December 24th/25th & January 1st**

We will celebrate our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on December 24th at 5:00 PM. There will be no service on Christmas Day. Our Janus Service will be on Sunday, January 1st at 10:00 AM.

- **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

- **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%.