

Friday Flyer – July 14, 2023

News You Can UUse

From the UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

- **Worship This Week** – *Summer Worship*
- **Worship at 8:30 AM – July 16th**
- **Worship Next Week** – *Summer Worship*
- **Worship at 8:30 AM – July 23rd**

- **Church Activities This Week:**

- Sunday, July 16 @ 8:30 AM - Summer Worship
- Monday, July 17 – Friday, July 28 - Muslim Days of Sadness
- Wednesday, July 19 @ 6:00 PM - *Harbour Singers*
- Thursday, July 20 @ 5:15 PM - SBGM (off site)
- Sunday, July 23 @ 8:30 AM - Summer Worship
- Thursday, July 27 @ 7:00 PM - SBGM – Movie Night

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 (vacation July 16-22)

Caring Needs – Please contact church office.

Upcoming Events and Activities

- **Church Office Closed**

The office will be closed next week as Brian is away on vacation. He will return on Monday, July 24th. For this reason, the *Friday Flyer* will not be sent out next week.

- **Summer Services**

Service Leaders are needed for Summer Services! Services (30 minutes) will be held Sunday mornings in the Parish Hall from July 2 to August 27. Many dates are still available. The Sign-Up sheet is on the bulletin board.

- **Thoughts from Rev. Lori**

Dear soggy friends,

Well, here we are again! Drenched and pruned! I hope you are enjoying the lushness of the grasses and foliage. At least we have that to hold on to. I just finished my first banned book. Barbara Kingsolver's *Demon Copperhead*. I actually picked it as a fun read while in Costa Rica. It was a great book! And it touched some deeply troubling issues for us as a society. Racism, classism, abuse, abject poverty, the child welfare system, the opioid crisis, and the strain and access to recovery programs to name some of the obvious ones. Issues that are deeply troubling and need exploration on many levels and from many directions. Art/literature being one of them. So let us resolve to do our summer reading of banned book (s). Looking forward to our discussion about *Girls Like Me*. It is a fiction book but highlights some troubling topics. Which it is why it is banned. If you encounter or enjoy another banned book, feel free to tell us about it this on a Sunday. It appears that our times together this summer may be freeform and that is okay too.

This weekend our Muslim friends will roll out the carpets. Literally. Let us hold in our hearts wishes for a rich time for them during their celebration of Ashura. Days of sadness to mourn an important figure in their religion. I feel it is a good thing to have our families and religious traditions teach us how to mourn, rather than hide it or overlook it. Group mourning is a release valve for ourselves and our communities. Built up sadness is never good. It transforms into many things.

So, it begs the question, how do UU's collectively mourn? Or do we? What would it look like in practice or theology? Should we create or incorporate formal community mourning in ways that help us reflect and let go of hard times as a community? Perhaps this fall we can have a day or week of mourning

to mark and let go of the plague of COVID and its devastating effects on our society and community. Food for thought.

In solidarity with our guests, I invite you to bring to mind the idea of mourning for yourself, your family, and this community. What does that look like in your life personally? Do you have rituals or practices that allow grief to move through you and beyond? Do you deny grief, ignore it, or hold it in? Is that helpful? Spend some time thinking about grief. Perhaps that will make interesting conversation for the next few weeks while we host our mourners!

Peace and Blessings

Rev Lori Whittemore, (she/her/hers)
Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco and Biddeford
revlori.uucs@gmail.com

- **Yale Sale Notice**

Please do not drop off your unwanted furniture on our front lawn. The Yard Sale is over and the disposal fees are steep. Thank you.

- **Anne W. Concert – July 18**

I will be performing with the Deep Blue C Studio orchestra on July 18, 2023, at 7PM at the Pavilion in Old Orchard Beach. Here is the link to the schedule:

<http://www.deepblueorchestra.com/schedule.html> For tickets go here: <http://seasidepavilion.org/>

We will be performing the Burt Bacharach show, in honor of this great musician. You will likely be singing and dancing in your seat. I know I am! The show goes on, Rain or Shine. Hope to see you there!
Anne

- **Blueberry Festival – July 22**

Blueberry Festival & Craft Fair, Sat. July 22, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 114 Main St. Kennebunk. Featuring home-made blueberry pie and blueberry buckle, crab rolls, hot dogs, veggie wraps, home-made lemon ice cream and beverages; 40 artists, crafters, and artisans; folk music; vintage jewelry; perfect weather on order. All welcome, Free! uukennebunk.org.

- **Share the Plate – June, July & August – Equality Community Center**

The ECC is a collaborative workplace for LGBTQ+ and allied social justice seeking non-profit organizations, including Equality Maine, MaineTransNet, Pride Portland, PFLAG, Khmer Maine, Cross Cultural Community Services, Democracy Maine, Sexual Assault Response Services, Through These Doors, Prevention Action Change, and the Kindling Collective. Located at 15 Casco Street in downtown Portland, the Center provides a safer and more inclusive gathering space with social and educational programming for all, working to support the most marginalized in our communities.

- **Live Stream on YouTube**

We are now live streaming our services on YouTube every Sunday at 8:30am

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%.