

Friday Flyer – December 15, 2023

News You Can UUse

From the UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

- **Worship This Week** – *Healing the Mystery*
- *Rev. Todd Glacy*
- **Worship at 10:00 AM – December 10th**

- **Church Activities This Week:**

- Sunday, Dec 17 @ 10:00 AM - Worship
- Wednesday, Dec 20 @ 6:00 PM - *Harbour Singers*
- Thursday, Dec 21 @ 10:00 AM - SBGM – NOA Brunch @ ECC
- Friday, Dec 22 @ 9:00 AM - Coffee & Carbs (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 Good People!

We are approaching Solstice and the turning of the wheel of spirit and seasons. Someone shared with me this poem that feels just right for reflection today.

From Spirit Wheel: Meditations from an Indigenous Elder

By Steven Charleston

Much to Do

Time to begin again this good work

We have been sent to do.

To feed the hungry, heal the sick, care for the poor.

All of these tasks and a thousand more stand before us.

Peace still beckons across the war-torn countryside

And justice waits to be fulfilled

In the streets of our cities.

Even the earth speaks its own lament

To all who will listen.

We have much to do.

Time then to take a breath, roll up our sleeves

Put aside personal disagreements and get busy.

We can debate our faith in the evening over coffee.

Now is the time for all of us

To be out in the fields of change.

What a wonderful urging in this time of mystery and return of the sun, that we need to re-fire our engines to personally engage in the important work of rebirth. Our time on the globe is more than a pleasure cruise but an exhortation to engage fully in co-creating the world we want to realize. A world where justice and mercy and safety reign. Where people have food and freedom from oppression and genocide. Where everyone takes earth care central in their daily

lives. In 2024 we will have important conversations about difficult realities and our place in addressing them. Climate justice, the war in the middle east are two that come to mind. Homelessness in our community is another I hope we can talk about over soup. We have the opportunity to move beyond the conversations and issues that divide us and embrace the call to be out in the fields of change.

The middle verse of Rumi's poem "The wagon" contains these familiar words.

*"Out beyond ideas of wrongdoing and rightdoing,
there is a field. I'll meet you there.
When the soul lies down in that grass,
the world is too full to talk about.
Ideas, language, even the phrase "each other"
doesn't make any sense.
The breeze at dawn has secrets to tell you.
Don't go back to sleep.
You must ask for what you really want.
Don't go back to sleep.
People are going back and forth across the doorsill
where the two worlds touch.
The door is round and open.
Don't go back to sleep."*

As we wake up again with the return of the sun, let us not go back to sleep, but remain awake to what is happening in our world so that we may be out in the field of change together!

Peace and Blessings

Rev Lori Whittemore, (she/her/hers)

Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco Biddeford

revlori.uucsb@gmail.com

- **The Little Tree That Could – December 17**

Please help our *The Tree of Hope*. Today, after church, please take a few items from the basket by the door and attach them to the clips you'll find hanging from the tree. You can replenish hanging items anytime you are at the church! Thank you!

- **Share the Plate – December – Hope Squad**

We are sharing our plate for the month of December with the Hope Squad. The mission of the Hope Squad is to see those who are invisible; to hear those who have no voice, to reinforce the infinite value and worth of each person we meet by providing a compassionate ministry of presence, needed resources, and hope to those living on the streets of Maine through mobile outreach."

- **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.

- **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%.