

UU Church of Saco and Biddeford
Saco, Maine

January 14, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WORSHIP SUPPORT SIGNUP

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO SIGN UP FOR WORSHIP SUPPORT DUTIES FOR THE WINTER/SPRING SEASON. THANK YOU.

Claim Your Dishes

Please check the stack of dishes to the left of the back sink in the kitchen. Claim any that are yours. Thank you.

Writer's Group – January 14

The writer's group will meet at 11:30 in the green room.

The Little Tree That Could

Please help our *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 – January – Seeds of Peace

Each summer, hundreds of young people engage with each other across lines of conflict and difference—sharing meals, living spaces, and learning experiences in a traditional summer camp program.

Annual Hymn Sing - January 28

Join Choir Director Ellie Rolnick and the UUCSB Pick Up Choir for a 'hasn't happened in a while but Annual Hymn Sing'. We'll weave YOUR favorite hymns throughout our typical church service. Look for the hymn survey slip in your Order of Service or send Ellie an email at uucsbchoir@gmail.com. We'll need the name or number or first line of the hymn (from the gray or teal hymnal). No sermon or big picture message but you'll learn a little about UU Hymnody and how some of those favorite hymns came to be as well as do a lot of singing or enjoying the music as the words and sounds wash over you.

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 8 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.

Printed on 30% recycled paper

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TODAY IN OUR WORSHIP:

What Love Calls Us To Do

Rev. Lori Whittemore

There are many ways that Unitarian Universalism incorporates the call to love in principles and campaigns. These have never been shallow calls. The call to love through our faith is a call to engage deeply with the world in the fullness of the world. To celebrate the gifts and to witness the pain. The commitment to honor and respect those we disagree with in our pews, in our neighborhoods and in our country, even when it is hard. What does that mean? We will consider how we engage our faith through love when our values are challenged in the many ways our values are challenged these days.

NEXT SUNDAY – January 21

Liberating Love

Rev. Lori Whittemore

The theme for this month is liberating love and next week we will explore what liberating love means in the context of Unitarian Universalism. More specifically Universalism. Liberating love means not only freeing someone from a place of love but it also means bringing them into the fold of decision making. Changing the structures of power and decision making that have oppressed or excluded them so they can bring their perspectives and energy to the evolving whole. Love liberates when it welcomes people and their ways of being in the world. Universalism sets us up for that. The belief that no one goes to hell, that everyone is “saved” and worthy frees us from excluding others. What does that mean for us at UUCSB?

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You are invited to please sit quietly during the gathering music

Greetings & Announcements – Beau Grothendick

Sounding the Singing Bowl

Prelude – Paul Benya

You are invited to light a candle of remembrance.

Welcoming Words

Responsive Reading (insert)

Lighting of the Chalice

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.

Our Covenant

***Hymn #317** *We Are Not Our Own*

Greeting Your Neighbor

Choir *I Will Not Pass* – Joyce Poley

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.

Story for All Ages *Love* – Matt de la Peña

***Hymn #127** *Can I See Another's Woe?*

Reading *Love and Justice* – Rev. Tess Baumberger
(based on 1 Corinthians)

Message *What Love Calls Us To Do*
– Rev. Lori /Whittemore

The Work of This Church – Offertory
Share the Plate – Seeds of Peace

***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 #124** *Be That Guide*

Closing Words

Choir *May We Shine a Light of Love* – Joyce Poley

Postlude

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

Thanks for making our worship possible:

Ushers – James Guillerault & Pieter Whittemore

Flowers –

Coffee Hour –

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