

Friday Flyer – January 12, 2024
News You Can UUse
From the UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

- **Worship This Week** – *What Love Calls Us To Do*
- *Rev. Lori Whittemore*
- **Worship at 10:00 AM – January 14th**

- **Church Activities This Week:**

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| ○ Sunday, Jan 14 @ 10:00 AM | - Worship |
| ○ Sunday, Jan 14 @ 11:15 AM | - FiAT |
| ○ Sunday, Jan 14 @ 11:30 AM | - Writer's Group |
| ○ Wednesday, Jan 17 @ 5:30 PM | - Trustees |
| ○ Wednesday, Jan 17 @ | - <i>Harbour Singers</i> |
| ○ Thursday, Jan 18 @ 7:00 PM | - SBGM – Game Night |
| ○ Friday, Jan 19 @ 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,

What does love have to do with it? The easy and obvious answer to this is EVERYTHING! Our principles of course help point us on the specifics but the point of it all is LOVE. I heard someone recently say that her understanding of the whole point of our existence and the Divine is the connective tissue between all things that flows between of all of creation. Even in the darkest corners there is the opportunity to connect through the Source to each other and to the world in Love. We are a part of that connective tissue already. It is our call to wake up to it and follow it to where it leads. To help restore connection between us and creation and to help restore others to creation. To help people wake up. The sacred texts and wisdom literature speak to this. This week we will explore what this means theoretically for us and practically for us. After you are invited for coffee and a discussion about what is happening in the middle east; out of place of Love and sacred response. Below is our reading for Sunday:

Love and Justice, Rev. Tess Baumberger *

(Based on 1 Corinthians)

Love is kind with people but impatient with injustice.

Love is assertive and respectful.

Love listens to the anger of those who experience oppression

Without responding, without defending,

Without interrupting, without explaining.

It listens with compassion, seeking always to understand.

Love is slow to anger, especially at the start or end of life,

and with anyone who the world discounts.

Yet anger can be a part of love.

Consider the force with which parents defend their young.

Love fears for those it loves, for what it loves.

When who or what it loves cannot defend itself,

Love rises to defend.

When those it loves have the power of defense

It takes their lead with humility and courage.

Love assists, empowers, and frees.

Love's anger rises to meet injustice

In considered ways that help correct it.
Love is willing to examine itself,
Its thoughts, actions, and unmeditated bias.
It recognizes one's power to harm, or to be part of systems of harm
With or without awareness, but once aware it can only intend
To make amends, to right the wrongs, to change the systems
That legislate hatred.
Love is willing always to change,
Always to learn, always to heal.
Love rejoices in truth and in equity.
There is no limit to love's steady presence,
Or it's holding us, gently but insistently, to what is right.

How does this speak to you? Where/when in your life has love called you to do hard things? How did you meet that call? Where is love making you angry in your life today? Where in your body do you hold that anger? How do you process it? Who do you process it with? When we meet on Sunday we will process it together when we consider what love calls us to do as people, as a community and as citizens of the world!

See you on Sunday!

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

- **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.

- **Writers Group – January 14**

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

- **WORSHIP SUPPORT SIGNUP**

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

- **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.

- **The Little Tree That Could**

Please help out *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 – 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. It is here that personal and interpersonal change begins, as perceptions and attitudes shift in the face of a new reality they create at Camp. As participants find their own voices, form relationships, and gain insights into the root issues that divide them, they build greater levels of confidence, trust, respect, and empathy, which inspire their commitment to work for change at home.

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."

- **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%.