

# The Messenger



UU Church of  
Saco & Biddeford

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[youtube.com/@uucsb](https://youtube.com/@uucsb)

## Summer Sunday Services

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July 7 – August 25, 2024 at 8:30 AM



## LIVE STREAM OF SERVICES

There will be no live stream of the  
Summer Sunday Services.



## IN THIS ISSUE

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Whoever you are,  
wherever you come from,  
whomever you love,  
you are welcome here.

# Words from Reverend Lori

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Hello Good People,

Summer can feel like a pause from rigid schedules and expectations of productivity. For me and others who serve our community it is on the one hand a pause and on the other hand a time of contemplation and preparation for the coming church year. It is a sabbatical that leads to visions that will lead us forward. Conversations are happening for worship planning; collaboration with RE programming; integrating the climate justice revival; service projects, and more. We have conversations to continue about our land acknowledgment. We have programs to evolve including small group ministry and green sanctuary 2030. We are a lively and alive community! I believe our pausing and preparing will lead to a deepening of our spiritual journeys together.

I belong to a chaplain credentialing organization that has a covenant that they use to open every meeting. It has had an impact on how I live my ministry. I want to share part of it here.

*We commit ourselves to a galaxy of shared values that are as deeply held, as they are difficult to communicate. "Recovery of soul" is a metaphor that points toward these values. We place a premium on the significance of the relationships among ourselves. We value personal authority and creativity. We believe we should make a space for one another and stand ready to midwife one another in our respective spiritual journeys. Because we believe that life is best lived by grace, we believe it essential to guard against becoming invasive, aggressive, or predatory toward each other. We believe that persons are always more important than institutions, and even the institution of ..... itself must be carefully monitored lest it take on an idolatrous character.*

While these are words that organize the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy, I see how beautifully that weaves into our community. We share values in our community and the core of it to me is valuing relationships above the institutions. Caring for one another, fostering right relationships, offering grace and accepting it, midwifing each other on our own spiritual journeys.

valuing relationships  
caring for each other  
offering grace  
accepting grace  
midwifing one another on our independent spiritual journeys

We travel together. We have significant issues to take up together. Together. As our ministry teams pause and prepare, we do so in a spirit of midwifing all of your journeys!



## Music Notes from Choir Director, Ellie R.

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“Choir is not just about singing; it’s about unity, harmony, and creating something beautiful together.”

– *Unknown*

- **ChoralFest at Ferry Beach:** It’s not too late to register! You’ll find me, Myra and Jeannine singing in harmony with several other women with Camille Saucier conducting! July 13-July 19.
  - **Worship in the Grove:** if you’re not up to a whole week of singing, join us for Worship in the Grove on Sunday, July 14th at 9:30 – 10:30
  - **TNT:** There’s always talent at the ChoralFest/GAYLA TNT (talent/no talent show) on Thursday night, July 18th. Starting time 8:00 p.m. in Rowland Hall.
- **Summer Sunday Service:** Please join me on Sunday July 28 when I lead a summer service at UUCSB – “What I learned at Choral Camp’. There will be lots of music and singing!
- **UUCSB Pick Up Choir:** Pick Up Choir returns in the fall, Sunday mornings from 8:45-9:45 (more news in the August Messenger)
- **Special Music:** Do you like to sing solo or play an instrument? Special music is always a welcome addition to a service.
- **Choir and Music Ministry Pot Luck Barbecue:**
  - Have you been part of the choir this past year?
  - Have you offered ‘Special Music’ this past year?
  - Are you interested in participating in our Music Ministry during the next church year?
  - Are you a supporter of the music program at UUCSB?

If the answer to one or more of these questions is ‘Yes!’ then you are invited to our Potluck gathering in August. Date is Sunday, August 25 from 12 – 3. I will be sending out specifics to those who I know answered yes to the first 2 questions but if you answered yes to the third or fourth question – I need you to reach out to me!

All are welcome who love to sing or who want to be involved with our Music Ministry.

For more information, please contact me directly at [uucsbchoir@gmail.com](mailto:uucsbchoir@gmail.com).

# Ministry of Faith in Action (MoFA)



**Reimagine Together  
From An Extractive  
Age To A New Era**

**Summer Meetings:**  
July 7, 9:15am  
August (TBD)

**UU Climate Justice Revival | September 28-29, 2024**

On September 28-29, congregations across the US and Canada will host UU Climate Justice Revivals to collectively reimagine a spirit-filled and liberatory future. Through conversations, worship, and advocacy, congregations will work together to realize climate justice and collective liberation in our communities. Congregations will receive everything they need to host a revival in their communities, including discussion guides and materials for all ages, training, worship resources, and advocacy actions designed to transform our communities through climate justice. The table below provides an overview of the weekend. <https://www.uuclimatejustice.org>.

## Mark your calendars!

DAY 1 (4-5 hours)		DAY 2 (2 hours)
<b>Revival Activities for Children &amp; Youth</b>	<b>Facilitated Dialogue for Adults</b>	<b>Multigenerational Celebration</b>
Pre-K, Elementary, Middle & High School activities using UU Climate Justice Revival curricular materials	Collective Visioning Making Connections Building Capacity Nourishing Relationships Charting a Course	<b>Worship Service</b>
		<b>Advocacy Hour</b> with UU the Vote UUs for Social Justice UU Service Committee



We are registered and are getting ready! **Please set aside the weekend of Sept 28-29.** We'll be more specific about times as we get feedback from you.





Each month MoFA “assigns” one task that we think is important and manageable. For this summer, we’re going to give you a menu to choose from to learn more about the Climate Justice Revival. **Please do at least 1 of these:**

- Attend the MoFA Service on July 7, 8:30am
- Attend the MoFA meeting July 7, 9:15 am
- Watch UUA President [Rev. Sofia Bétancourt’s invitation to join the Revival](#)
- Register and attend a 1-hour info session
  - Wednesday, July 17: 8 pm EDT/5 pm PT [[REGISTER](#)]
  - Monday, August 5: 7 pm EDT/4 pm PT [[REGISTER](#)]
  - Wednesday, August 7: 7 pm EDT/4 pm PT [[REGISTER](#)]
  - Tuesday: August 13: 12 pm EDT/9 am PT [[REGISTER](#)]
  - Thursday, August 15: 12 pm EDT/9 am PT [[REGISTER](#)]
- WATCH: [Recording of Thursday, June 13 Zoom info session](#)

## Welcome Immigrants Our New Neighbors

### Need for Legal Aid

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WIONN is a small group of volunteers who work with refugees and asylum-seekers in Biddeford, Saco and OOB. Several of our UUCSB members have been involved in helping these families over the last 6 years. These immigrants usually encounter difficult financial and cultural situations in the first months after their arrival in Maine.



All asylum seekers must present their cases in court. Only 30% of asylum seekers’ petitions are granted. Without an immigration attorney, it’s nearly impossible. A typical bill for an asylum case is \$3500-\$7000, not including \$60-\$100/hour for language interpretation. Paying an immigration attorney is out of reach for many asylum seekers.

To donate to help families in need of legal assistance, you may write checks to:

*Christ Church Federated, 55 Church Street, Lyman, ME 04002 (Memo: "WIONN, legal")*

Randa T. or Sonja G. will also accept donations and answer questions about volunteer opportunities. Find more ways to help here.

# Greetings from the Treasurer

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Account balances as of 06/24/2024 are as follows:

Checking	\$7,638.66
Accounts Payable	\$-0-
Restricted Savings	\$46,287.95
Saco/Bidd Investments	\$152,939.55

Any questions, just call.

Sincerely, Wendy Coleman

## Children's Religious Exploration Ministry

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While Children's Religious Exploration (RE) will not be held over the summer, planning for the fall has already begun! On July 14th immediately after the service I am hosting a discussion with interested congregation members about RE and some of the tasks noted below—please join us!

Whether you can join on July 14th or not, please find a list below of both one-time and ongoing opportunities to support the RE!

### Opportunities

- **Join the Children's RE Ministry** – We will meet once a month to discuss and plan out upcoming RE services and activities as well as ways to help grow the program
- **Become a Sunday morning volunteer** – I will provide an orientation and schedule in the fall
- **Help organize and set-up the RE Room** in preparation for the fall (one-time) – Look for a Friday Flyer announcement for the exact date
- **Sign up to be a guest** or to host a special RE activity (one-time)
- **Join an RE service project** – we will have at least one in the fall and one in the spring (one-time)
- **Help plan and co-host intergenerational activities!** (one-time or ongoing)
- **If you have another idea of how you'd like to help** – let me know!

Please reach out to me if you are interested or if you have any questions!

Melissa Caminiti – Ph: 207-778-1266 or [mcaminiti0124@gmail.com](mailto:mcaminiti0124@gmail.com)

# Hannaford Gift Cards

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Would you like to donate to the church in a way that doesn't cost you anything? If you buy your weekly groceries with a Hannaford gift card purchased from UUCSB, the church gets 5%. Our church depends on this fundraiser to contribute to its operating budget. Cards are available in \$100 or \$50 denominations. Gift cards are for sale in the Parish Hall every Sunday after the worship service. If you are worshipping virtually, just call or email Ellie L. and make arrangements to pick them up at another time. Thank you for participating in this fundraiser in support of our church.

# Share the Plate

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We will be sharing the summer's plate with MaineTransNet. The MaineTransNet mission is to support and empower transgender people to create a world where they can thrive. MaineTransNet is a community-based organization led by transgender people for transgender people. They provide peer-to-peer support groups, social and community events, advocacy for the transgender community across Maine, and training for medical, mental health, and social service providers. MTN engages transgender people and their allies across Maine in the practice of community building and organizing for mutual liberation. Their work is rooted in a deep desire to care for one another which informs how they build systems of mutual support centering accessibility, inclusivity, and hospitality. MTN views structures of power and oppression as interlocking, and believe in finding their leadership among those with lived experience.

# Try Small Group Ministry



**August 4, 8-9am**

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After a hiatus of nearly 10 years, Small Group Ministry (SGM) returned to UUCSB this spring. SGM provides a medium for deeper interpersonal connections and exploration of spiritual topics and practices.

**Some members of recent small groups will present an extended Sunday service on August 4 so you can all experience SGM.**

# Thinking about becoming a member?

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*To learn more about our congregation:*

Please speak to any member or someone from the Membership Welcoming Committee. Plan to attend a Sharing Your Spiritual Journey orientation.

*To learn more about our faith and practice:*

Various aspects of Unitarian Universalism are explained in brochures kept in a rack as you enter the sanctuary. You are welcome to take these home. You can also talk with members of our congregation.

## **Our Church**

We are a voluntary association of those committed to this special religious community. We share common values, but we do not require or expect conformity to any specific religious beliefs. We welcome each person's spiritual exploration and expression. Web sites [www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com](http://www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com) and [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org), contain more information on the traditions, activities and people of our church and association.

Our Membership Welcoming Committee is also willing to assist you. More information on membership can be found at: [Become A Member](#)

## **Church Administrator**

### **Brian Dustin**

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8 to 11 am.

207/282-0062 or 207/632-4512

Visit our website at: [www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com](http://www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com)

If you would like to add or correct something on the website, please let me know. Please be specific with corrections as we have over 75 pages on our site. Added content for areas that have not yet been developed will be gratefully accepted. Thank you to those folks who have provided content and updates.

**Donate Online:** PayPal may be used for donations and pledge payments. Go to the church website and at the very top of the page click "Give" and then click "Donate".

**By Mail:** Send donations and pledge payments to: UU Church of Saco & Biddeford, 60 School Street, Saco, ME 04072