

# Friday Flyer – November 22, 2024

## News You Can UUse

From the UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

- **Worship This Week** – *Truth, Reconciliation and Thanksgiving*
  - *Rev. Dr. Lori Whittemore*
  - **Worship at 10:00 AM – November 24<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Church Activities This Week:**
    - Saturday, Nov 23 @ 8:00 AM                   - *Holly-Day Fair*
    - Sunday, Nov 24 @ 10:00 AM                 - *Worship*
- 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](mailto: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

It is the Friday before Thanksgiving. It is darker and colder and browner outside. It is also the time of the thin veil that takes place between Samhain and Solstice. A time for contemplation and reflection. All of these converge at a time when we are confronted with difficulty and divisiveness. All of this to say....it may feel difficult right now. I know it does for me. I have been and will reflect on Sunday about how life holds multiple truths for us. When we consider our theme for the month is repair, how can we hold space for multiple truths in a way that keeps us open while holding our values and principles? That is the question that faces us in this liminal time. I share this poem....whose author I could not locate.

In the mirror's gaze, a face stares back,  
Yet others see it with a different fact.  
The world is painted with diverse hues,  
Truth is a prism, split by different views.

A single event, a moment in time,  
Can be recounted in conflicting rhyme.  
Perspectives clash, memories blur,  
The absolute truth, we can rarely infer.

The earth is flat, the earth is round,  
Both were true, in different eras found.  
Knowledge evolves, paradigms shift,  
Yesterday's fact, tomorrow's rift.

In the realm of heart, of love and loss,  
Truth is a tapestry of tangled dross.  
Emotions ebb, flow like the tide,  
Perception of truth, our souls divide.

So let's embrace the complexity,  
The multiple truths, the messy reality.  
For in the gray, in the nuance we find,  
A deeper understanding, intertwined.

Thanksgiving is full of these multiple truths! For first nations people of our country it is not a celebration, but a ghost of terrible atrocities. For European settlers it is a mythical celebration of bounty and kinship. And there is cultural warfare about these things. For many of us it is a time for family; sometimes joyfully, sometimes dreadfully anticipated. For others it is a time for loneliness. All of these truths are with us right now. Our faith tells us that we can embrace multiple truths. And we should at least consider them thoughtfully because even when the facts seem sketchy, there is data behind those truths. Data that we need that will deepen our understanding of each other as humans.

So why did the chicken cross the road? Perhaps to get away from the turkeys that are being caught up to be sold for Thanksgiving. At any rate, I will ask you about the chickens on Sunday. Please be ready in the pews to respond!

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

- **Children's Corner**

- **Festival of Trees – Tree Preview and Tea Party**

- **November 23, 1:30p-3:30p** at Dyer Library – Saco Museum at 371 Main Street, Saco  
**\*\*Please note, this is not a church organized event.** This is a courtesy notice for any families wishing to participate independently.

- **Intergenerational Game Night and Holiday Party**

- **December 7, 4-7p** in the church Parish Hall. Please use this [form](#) or email Melissa at [mcaminitio124@gmail.com](mailto:mcaminitio124@gmail.com) to **RSVP by 12/4.**

- **RE Coffee Hour**

- **December 15.** We will decorate cookies to share and serve hot chocolate. Volunteers needed!

- **RE Volunteer Opportunities**

- Please contact Melissa Caminiti at [mcaminitio124@gmail.com](mailto:mcaminitio124@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering with any of the children's activities!

- **Ministry on Children's Religious Exploration (RE)**

- Please contact Melissa Caminiti at [mcaminitio124@gmail.com](mailto:mcaminitio124@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining a monthly committee focused on RE program growth opportunities including helping to plan and promote children's activities!

- **Share the Plate – November – Saco Food Pantry**

- **The Saco Food Pantry opened its doors in 1982** as the Biddeford-Saco Council of Churches Food Pantry. It continued for many years as such, until the Council disbanded in 2002. At that time, it incorporated and became the Saco Food Pantry, Inc. as a nonprofit organization with a tax-exempt status.