

UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

Saco, Maine

March 23, 2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Fellowship Luncheon – March 30

We are going to have our Fellowship Luncheon on Sunday March 30th right after church. A Fellowship Luncheon is a potluck luncheon where everyone brings a dish to share. It will be the start of our pledge drive. We will distribute pledge packets, which you can fill out and turn in then or drop them off at the office or give them to Wendy Coleman. It will also be a time of socialization and getting to know others at your table. There will be a sign-up sheet on the wall outside of the parish hall

Share the Plate – March – MUUSAN

Mission Statement: MUUSAN gives voice to Unitarian Universalist values in the public arena through a statewide advocacy and public policy network anchored in our faith and animated by its principles. MUUSAN is a faith-based advocacy organization working for justice in Maine.

Please e-mail announcements to Brian in the church office (uuchurch@zwi.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.

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TODAY IN OUR WORSHIP:

Trust in What You Do Not Yet Know

Rev. Dr. Lori Whittemore

Not all of us are oriented the same in terms of how we see the world. Some of us are optimists. Some not so much. And yet creation has put an amazing unfolding in front of us in terms of the natural world. Some other kind of unseen force has put a spiritual unfolding in front of us as well. We have all gone through hard times and gotten through them. We will again. Let us think about the leaders in our various spheres who have trusted their way and our way into the future and consider how our faith helps us trust our way forward as well.

NEXT SUNDAY – March 30

Special Music Hymn Sing

Ellie Rolnick

Join Choir Director, Ellie Rolnick, Choir Members and Special Musicians as they lead a ‘Special Music Hymn Sing’. Hymns will be chosen from your requests (if you haven’t told us your favorite hymn yet, catch one of us at Coffee Hour). The choir will sing at least one of your favorites and we will share bits of knowledge about our church hymnody and the songs you choose. Along with the choir, our special musicians will help make this an extra special Hymn Sing service. Be ready to make a ‘Joyful Noise’ and enjoy the music that surrounds you!

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Greetings & Announcements – Jane Perkins

Prelude – Paul Benya
You are invited to light a candle of remembrance.

Sounding the Singing Bowl

Lighting of our 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

Welcoming Words

***Hymn #346** *Come, Sing a Song with Me*

Greeting Your Neighbor

Choir *Over My Head* – African American Spiritual
arr. Horace Clarence Boyer

Sharing from the Heart (*Joys and Concerns*)

Pastoral Prayer

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.

Reading *This Act Of Faith* – Rev. Gretchen Haley

***Hymn #15** *The Lone, Wild Bird*

Message *Trust In What You Do Not Yet Know*
– Rev. Dr. Lori Whittemore

The Work of This Church – Offertory
Share the Plate – MUUSAN

***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 #101** *Abide with Me*

Closing Words

Choir *When Our Heart is in a Holy Place* – Joyce Posey

Benediction

Postlude

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

Thanks for making our worship possible:

Ushers – Sarah Wells

Flowers –

Coffee Hour – Wendy & Paul Coleman

Children – Melissa Caminiti & Niki Norman

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