

UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

Saco, Maine

September 14, 2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Welcome Our New Filmer Ryun Grivois!

Today we welcome our new filmer Ryun Grivois! We are delighted to have him support us in this way and to get to know him! More to come soon. Welcome Ryun!

A2S

If you are interested in checking out the new Aging to Saging (A2S) program, we begin October 8th in the Parish Hall at 9:30. Please let Rev Lori know that you are planning to come. There is more about the program in the recent messengers and the new website!

Change to Joys and Sorrow:

We are changing the way we are doing joys and sorrow starting this church year. Folks are invited to approach the front of the church from the choir side. After sharing your joy or concern, you proceed to light your candle and return to your seat on the organ side. Worship Ministry is hoping to make the flow of this element of worship smoother. Thank you.

NEW WEBSITE!

Today we launch our new website www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.org. The .ORG is what is new! The Rev. Morgan Rowe had worked her tail off designing a user friendly, informative and interactive site. We think it is beautiful! Please check it out! We welcome feedback to improve it.

We hope we have create a site that communicates who we are, especially for folks who are checking us out for the first time. We also hope that our interactive calendars will serve ad a great way of keeping track of all the goings on this year. Please check it out!

New Door Policy!

Beginning next week we are implementing a new door policy. The front door will locked 5-10 minutes after the start of service. An usher willl be present to let people in up until 10:15. This change has been talked about for years and the BOT feels that it is time to create a more thorough security process for the protection and peace and mind of those who attend. We invite you to be mindful of this change and get here prior to 10:10! Thanks so much!

Please e-mail announcements to Brian in the church office (uucsb1827@gmail.com) 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:

Water Communion, the Great Commissioning and Building Belonging **Rev. Dr. Lori Whittemore**

This week is our Ingathering, water communion and a commissioning of all those serving our community. Spoiler that is pretty much all of you. This sacred ritual symbolizes our joining together for the next church year! Please bring water and your hospitable and welcoming selves! It is also the Sunday of the launch of our new website and the welcoming of our new filmer. What a joy to be together again. Let us hold the gift of togetherness near and dear as we come back be together again!

NEXT SUNDAY – September 21 **Love Lifts Us Up Where We Belong** **Rev. Niki Norman**

Love has lifted me over and over, even in moments of great despair. When and where has loved lifted you? Let's explore this together on Sunday with some completeive time, and a conversation.

Fall Worship Support

We are still in need of someone to take on scheduling for coffee hour. We are also sill looking for an RE Lead. Please keep eyes open for anyone who might br interested AND check your calendar to see if you can help out for a Sunday this fall.

Share the Plate – September – Minister's Discretionary Fund

Please help replenish this fund. It provided for immediate assistance from the minister. The more that is in the fund, the more that we can help others.

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Greetings & Announcements – Niki Norman

Sounding the Singing Bowl

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

Lighting of our Chalice

We are Unitarian Universalists who put love who put love
at the center of our lives.

We light this chalice today in honor of the flame of truth
and our call to spread it.

Childrens' Covenant

Opening Words – Dr. David Breen

***Hymn #360** *Here We Have Gathered*

Greeting Your Neighbor

Choir *The In-gathering* – Sharon School

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.

Water Communion

About Water Communion

Invitation

Consecrating the Water

***Hymn #1064** *Blue Boat Home*

Commissioning

The Work of This Church – Offertory

Share the Plate – Minister's Discretionary Fund

***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
Let us remember
We are Unitarian Universalists (open wide toward each
other)
Who put love at the center of our lives (hands on heart)
And as we go out into the world,
Let us remember that
that everyone should be free to celebrate themselves
exactly as we are! (place hands on
hips and push chest out as in a "superman stance.

***Hymn #298** *Wake, Now, My Senses*

Closing Words – Alice Berry

Choir *As We Leave This Friendly Place*
– Vincent Silliman and J.S.Bach

Benediction

Postlude

***Please stand, as you are comfortable.**
Thanks for making our worship possible:

Ushers – Pieter Witteore & Hayley Fox
Flowers –
Coffee Hour – Board of Trustees
Children –

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