



Unitarian
Universalist
Society of Bangor

The Chalice and Chimes Newsletter

February 2016

Worship ~ 10:00 AM

Feb. 7 *InterGen Mid-Winter Chapel*

We will all join together, in the Sanctuary, for one of our Religious Educations' Chapel Experiences. Youth and adults will join together to walk our traditional mid-winter labyrinth, enjoy a tale told by our very own Chris Packard, and get our creative minds going with a couple of activities. Let's come together for a meditative, creative, and f-UU-n experience! All RE Classes will be upstairs. Nursery can be provided if the need arises.

Feb. 14 *Creating Safety by Facing the Potential Harm* – Karen Childs and The Reverend Arthur Vaeni

During the past year and a half, the DRE, minister, and several UUSB members crafted a policy—which has been approved by the Council—regarding how to deal with the potential for abuse, harassment or sexual assault in your community, as well as how to possibly be inclusive of people who may have a history of perpetrating sexual abuse but are seeking a changed way to be in the world. How can a religious community properly balance its desire to be inclusive while rightly seeking to safeguard itself?

Feb. 21 *The Future of the Earth and the Tyranny of the Present* – The Reverend Arthur Vaeni

Douglas Kysar once wrote that, with respect to our responsibilities to care for the Earth, “members of future generations suffer an even greater tyranny of the present than those currently living.” What do we owe to those who will follow us?

Feb. 28 *Is It More Significant to Leave Than to Arrive?* – The Reverend Arthur Vaeni

On this final Sunday before your interim minister departs for health reasons, we shall consider the significance of our many arrivals and departures throughout our lives.

UUSB Church Cancellation Guidelines:

In the case of bad weather, the most important thing is for everyone to be safe. Please do not travel to the UUSB for morning worship if you feel that doing so would be unsafe. UUSB may need to be cancelled due to no lights, no heat, no water, disasters, and other unforeseen circumstances.

The decision to cancel worship and religious education will be made by Sue McKay, Rev. Art Vaeni, and Laurie Cartier, who will reach such decision by 7:00 AM Sunday morning. An announcement will be put on the outgoing phone message of the church office (207-947-7009), and announcements will also go out to the local network television and radio stations; and, if possible (power permitting), an announcement will be sent out via email, on the UUSB Facebook page, and posted on the UUSB website uubangor.org.

Along the Ministerial Way

As of the time I am writing this, my last newsletter column at UUSB, I don't know, definitively, if I have Alzheimer's disease. Regardless of what my final diagnosis proves to be, I am aware of a significant decline in my ability to recall things. Yet, the experience has, also, provided me an opportunity to deepen my understanding of life and, particularly, to explore a presumption I was not consciously aware that I held.

In the *World Alzheimer Report 2012*, published by Alzheimer's Disease International, Michael Ellenbogen, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's at 39 years of age, writes:

I have been so surprised by the stigma associated with this disease. It comes at you from all angles. People think they know what Alzheimer's is, but they don't... I have learned that I do not want to share my diagnosis with people I meet until they get to know me. If I was to tell them upfront, I would be treated so differently, which I have learned... I don't want them to feel sorry for me or pity me, I just want to be understood. So many people say you do not seem to have Alzheimer's, and that frustrates me.

Let me tell you what it's like to live with this debilitating and progressive disease... When I go shopping and look at items, most of them never really register in my mind, even though I see them clearly. I have trouble making decisions, because I question whether I am making the right one. I can no longer enjoy my favorite hobbies, because it requires processing skills that I no longer have. He continues listing examples.

As I said at the outset, I don't know, just yet, that I have Alzheimer's. Even so, whatever malfunction is occurring in my brain, his list of debilities feels familiar. I am, still, able to think critically and in-depth about issues, yet, if I don't write those thoughts down almost immediately, then, I am commonly unable to remember them within minutes. People tell me, "Oh, that happens to me, too." I understand that, for it used to happen to me, on occasion, as well. At this time, however, it has become one of life's constants.

There are times I feel quite sad about the losses this condition evokes, for example, in terms of my inability to recall significant experiences I have shared with friends in the past or even to recall dear friends with whom I am not in ongoing contact. On the other hand, after seeking to live in-the-moment, more consistently, by practicing Mindfulness Meditation for nearly 25 years, I find I am able to do so better than ever because, increasingly, there is no other moment for me except the present.

I have discerned in my nearly 66 years that life is often of this nature.

That is, it's a mixed bag. I say life is often of this nature but certainly, not always. There are occasions when the Earth is so beautiful, one can only know such deep appreciation and be glad. May you be glad in the days and years to come!

In the spirit of love and peace,

Arthur

The Transition Team Committee Will Continue

You probably have heard the sad news that Rev. Arthur Vaeni has resigned, effective the end of February, for health reasons.

For the past year and a half, there has been a Transition Team Committee to assist Rev. Art in preparing the congregation for a new minister.

At a recent meeting of this committee, we agreed to continue meeting until the end of this church year. Why? Rev. Art has served as a focal point for concerns about our transition, and after February the Committee felt there still should be a place for the congregation to express any concerns.

If you would like to talk about our transition process, please feel free to contact anyone on the Transition Team Committee: Christina Diebold, LyAnn Grogan, Suzanne Kelly, Glen Koehler, Rissa Moore, and Natalie Norton.

Guided by Gratitude

It is that time of year again! Our annual pledge drive will begin in February and end in March. This year's theme is *Guided by Gratitude*.

Consider how UUSB makes a difference in the lives of its members and friends and their family members. In the coming fiscal year, beginning July 1st, we will welcome a new settled minister and begin the next chapter for this historic liberal religious voice in Bangor. Our religious education department will continue to provide our youth unparalleled quality programming, and our social justice efforts will connect us to the broader community and its needs.

When determining your financial commitment to this year's campaign, please be Guided by Gratitude!

Membership-Fellowship Committee

UUSB's Cure for Cabin Fever! "Fun for All" Game Night at UUSB, February 6th

Come one and all, 6:30-8:00 in the Dorothy Memorial Hall. Bring a snack to share if you like, and a favorite game. This is an event for all ages. Popular games we usually have on hand: BananaGrams, Dominos, Apples to Apples. If this night seems a bit "fruity", you hit the apple right on the head. It is all fun and no work, so don't miss this great evening of fun for everyone!

Membership Class: If you are interested in joining our congregation, mark your calendar for two Tuesday evenings February, the 2nd and 9th, in the Dorothy Memorial Hall from 6:30-8:30. This is our next Membership class. This is an opportunity to learn about our faith tradition, local history and meet current and future members! Please sign up on the bulletin board behind the serving area in the Dorothy Memorial Hall, or call the office at 947-7009.

Council Corner

So, here we are in February. The groundhog still sleeps. Will winter be long or short? The time Rev. Arthur has left with us is too short.

In this short month, I hope we take time on Valentine's Day to express our love and gratitude to Rev. Arthur for his service in this interim period.

On February 28, which will be here far too quickly, the Council will host—along with the Membership/Fellowship Committee—a “Fare-well” reception at coffee hour. This will be in lieu of our regularly scheduled Souper Sunday. So, instead of soup, please bring light luncheon fare.

Coincidentally, February 28th is also a New Member Sunday. As we bid Rev. Arthur farewell, we bid welcome to newcomers—and our congregation grows stronger for the relationships and experiences that have sustained and strengthened us during this interim period.

As we bid farewell to Rev. Arthur, we also say farewell to Sally Gove, his wife, who joined the AUW Guild and enriched our experiences as well. She inspired the Guild to lead a Sunday worship service coinciding with International Women's Day. Be here on March 6th to learn about the role of women in sustaining church communities and, in particular, our women—historically and presently—who serve our intertwined families of home, church, community, nation, and world.

How does a farewell to Rev. Arthur and Sally lead into a March service celebrating women in the church? Last summer, when the Council had its retreat, we decided on some goals for the church year. One of these goals entailed celebrating ourselves, this marvelous congregation of caring people who exemplify putting our Principles into action and being of service. Rev. Arthur has been our chief cheerleader, reminding us often—from the pulpit and in meetings—of how proud he is of us as a vibrant and caring community. Most of us expect no recognition, but some of us have recently made it into the public eye through the news. In the past few months, we've publicly heard about: Gayle and Joe Zydlewski, Rachel Case, Lee Kantar, Susan and Don McKay, Bucky Owen, Mark McCollough, Suzanne Kelly, Irene Davis and David Paterson, and Emma Paterson-Davis. How many more of us have served in some way without recognition? I suspect many, if not most of us.

Rev. Arthur has commended us for our strength as a community, for our commitment and caring for one another. As we bid him farewell on February 28th, we'll have the opportunity to thank him for his service and commitment to us.

Blessed Be!

Catherine Foxson

Social Justice Committee News

Here we are, mid-January and we have a lot going on and more to come:

Support for the Muslim Community:

- Joanie Ellis has written a letter to the Islamic Center of Maine stating the Social Justice Committee (SJC)'s support for our Muslim friends and neighbors. SJC members have signed the letter which will be shared with the UUSB after it is sent to the Center.
- Nancy Jacobson connected with the Islamic Center regarding doing a worship service as well as planning a visit to the Center by interested UUSB members. The Worship service will be on April 10th. The Center will be having an open house on Saturday, April 2nd for those interested.

We hope to have a letter of wider congregational support sent and publicized in the near future with approval from Council.

Maine Citizens for Clean Elections (MCCE) update:

- We had a forum on January 11th with 20 people in attendance, including current Democratic Clean Election candidates, Adam Goode and Geoff Gratwick, and former Republican Clean Election candidate, Ed Youngblood. There was a good mix of UUSBs and non UUSBs. We had a spirited discussion about what *Yes on 1* accomplished and what we can do to make Clean Elections work. More to come.
- For those who want to find out more about the Maine Clean Election Act or donate to a Clean Election Candidate: www.maine.gov/cleanelections.

UUSB at Martin Luther King Breakfast Celebration: We have a UUSB table and that makes us a sponsor. The table filled up in a blink with 10 UUs. It may be that UU Youth and families will also be represented.

Black History Month Film Series and Bag Lunch:

- Two films from the PBS *Eyes on the Prize* series, and *La Cuidad*, a film about Latin American immigrants in New York City, co-sponsored by the Bangor NAACP will be shown on Sundays after service @ 11:30 A.M. in the Vestry: February 7, 14 and 21.
- Valerie Carter will be discussion moderator for *Eyes on the Prize* films; Michael Alpert, Director of the Greater Bangor Area NAACP, will moderate *La Cuidad*.

Youth Liason, Meredith Jones, reported on plans to raise money for their *Safe Passages* program. They plan on raising money by selling Fair Trade Coffee and lunch and/or sweet items at the Peace and Justice Center's HOPE (Help Organize Peach Earthwide) Festival on April 23rd.

Helping with ongoing SJ Programs: Contact Mike Grondin or Vyvyenne Ritchie about **Bean Suppers**, Joanie Ellis about **Bag Lunches**, and Pat Moulton about the **Soup Kitchen**. We're working on a consistent plan to collect and distribute food to the **Ecumenical Food Cupboard**.

Check out SJC table/and calendar in Dorothy Memorial, and Facebook posts by communications guru, Jeanne Curran, for updates on the above and other upcoming events and meetings.

Treasurer's Report

Submitted by: Rosemary Parsons

July 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2015

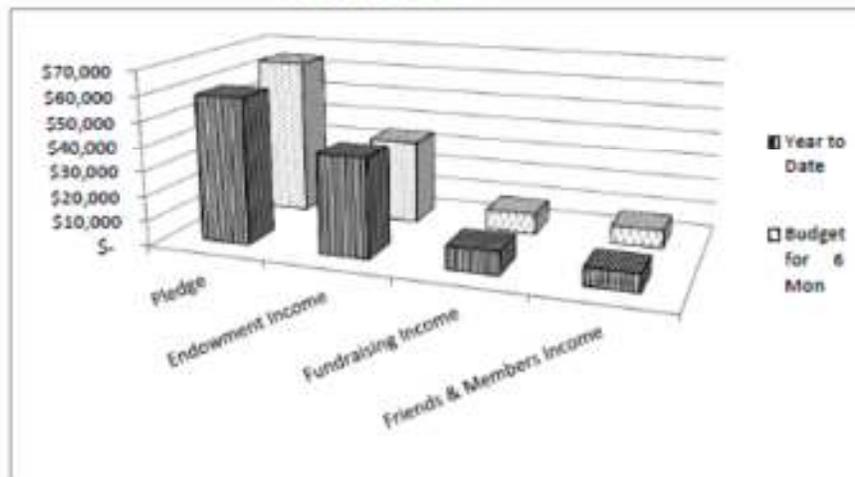
50 % of Year

INCOME	Year to Date	Budget for 6 Mon	% Rec'd	\$ Ahead (Behind)
Pledge	\$ 58,979	64,333	46%	(5,354)
Endowment Income	39,444	34,243	58%	5,201
Fundraising Income	9,047	8,250	55%	797
Friends & Members Income	7,035	7,050	50%	(15)
Total Revenues	\$ 114,505	\$ 113,876	50%	629

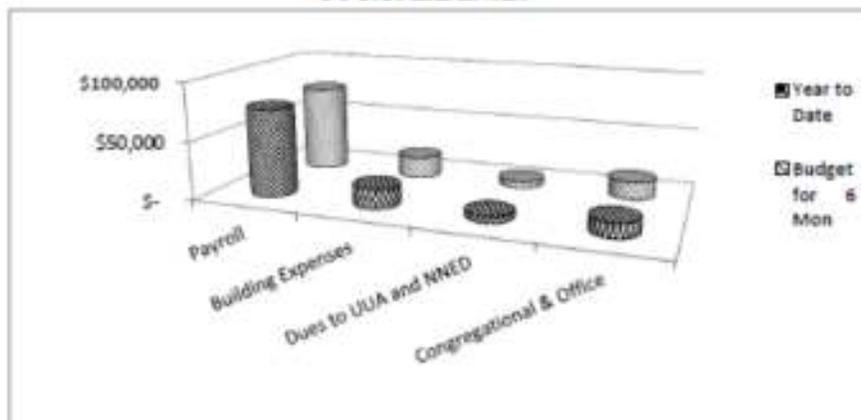
EXPENSES	Year to Date	Budget for 6 Mon	% Spent	\$ Ahead (Behind)
Payroll	\$ 75,430	75,267	50%	164
Building Expenses	16,725	18,101	46%	(1,376)
Dues to UUA and NNED	5,530	5,530	50%	0
Congregational & Office	12,164	14,979	41%	(2,815)
Total Expenses	\$ 109,849	113,876	48%	(4,027)

Net income for 6 month is \$ 4,656

FY 2016 INCOME



FY 2016 EXPENSES



Reminder from the Worship Committee

Flowers for the Alter: If you would like to celebrate a special occasion (birthdays, anniversaries, graduation or job promotion) or remember a loved one, sign up to bring flowers on your special day. Your celebration will be honored in the order of worship. Please bring your flowers for the alter 15 minutes prior to the start of the services. Sign-up sheet on the board in the Dorothy. Thank you!

Stewardship Committee

“Guided by Gratitude”

Thankfulness and generosity. The spirit started building back in November with Thanksgiving, and continued through December into the Solstice and Christmas. We sang *Auld Lang Syne* in the first few seconds of January to remind us of how precious our family and friends are. And each February at UUSB, we kick off the annual pledge drive to support the congregation for which we are so thankful. This is an opportunity for us to be perpetually Guided by Gratitude, and continue that spirit throughout the entire year.

This **February 27th from 6:30 PM - 8 PM**, we will be hosting the **UUSB Talent Show** downstairs in the Vestry to kick off the pledge drive. All acts are welcome, be they poetry, music, story-telling, or interpretive dance. Please email Eric Olson (olsonea@gmail.com), or add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Dorothy.

UUSB Auctions Are Coming in April!

Mark Your Calendar, and Check Your Home For Quality Items to Donate.
These are our largest “Fun”draisers of the year!

The Silent Auction will kick off Saturday evening, April 9th,
at the Live Auction and conclude on Sunday, April 17th.

The Live Auction will be held on April 9th in the Dorothy Memorial Hall at UUSB.
Beginning 6:00-6:30 PM - heavy hors d’oeuvres; then, 6:30-8:00 PM - Live Auction.
Items include: Seats at meals, services and custom-made items.

Please contact Sue McKay at suemckay@midmaine.com with items,
meals and services you would like to donate.

Also, a Donation file will be posted on the bulletin board
where you can list your item(s).

Shawl Ministry

Shawl Ministry Has a New Meeting Schedule

Shawl Ministry will now be meeting **every other month**, on the second Tuesday, starting Feb. 9, 2016. We will meet from 5:30 to 8:30 PM at a member's home for a potluck dinner, then work on shawls. New members are welcome anytime! For more information, please contact Cathy Elliott.

Announcements & Reminders

Do you have a **CLYNK** Bag?? Be sure to have one handy, so you can easily be collecting bottles and cans that help raise money for our upcoming service trips. The bags are in the Dorothy Memorial Room. Please see Laura, Amelia, Meredith, Nick, or Eamon for details. Thank you!!!

Hannaford Grocery Cards —A Church Fund-raiser. Sold **every** Sunday during fellowship time in the Dorothy. *Convenient to carry! No fees!* Every card purchase helps UUSB!! Cards are available in increments of **\$25, \$50 or \$100**. Cash, or checks made out to UUSB are accepted. Buy cards for your own grocery shopping, or buy cards for gifts, or even donate a card to a local food bank.

Every Tuesday Night!! UUSB Coffee House Open Mic Night. Join us from 7:00-10:00 PM in the Vestry. Open to all UUSBers and to the Public. There will be coffee, tea, and bake goods for purchase. Come sing and play with us! FMI: contact Susan and Eric Olson, Karen Childs or LyAnn Grogan; or, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/UUSB-Coffeehouse-Open-Mic-1053951664657557/>

CHALICE LIGHTERS: We would like to invite all at UUSB, especially new families, to consider lighting our chalice one Sunday. Sign-up sheet is posted in the Dorothy on the bulletin board by the kitchen. Please include your email for a reminder message. See Laura Santilli (laurabngr@aol.com) with any questions.

Winter Market Info ~ Bangor area localvores will be able to eat local **all winter long** thanks to the **Winter Farmers' Market:** 11 AM – 1 PM every 1st and 3rd Sunday, January through April **inside** the banquet room at the Sea Dog Brewing Company, 26 Front St., Bangor.

The 8th Annual Meeting of the Northern New England District, Unitarian Universalist Association will be held at the [UU Church in Concord, NH](#) on Saturday, April 9, 2016. The Board will be hosting a reception on Friday evening, April 8th. Look for details and registration in February.

The UU Church of Belfast, ME is sponsoring a weekend workshop by Rev. Chris Antal, **Tending Moral Injury in Returning Veterans**, to be held May 20-22, 2016. It is a workshop for clergy and faith leaders from faith communities. The Rev. Chris J. Antal, who is an ordained Unitarian Universalist Minister in Final Fellowship with the UUA, is a clinical staff chaplain in the Philadelphia VA Medical Center and the called and settled minister at the UU Congregation at Rock Tavern, New York. Prior to that he served four years as an Army chaplain with one tour in Afghanistan. **Cost:** \$125 per person or \$345 for three or more from one faith community. **To register or FMI contact:** Kathy Kreamer, kathrynkreamer@gmail.com or 207-338-4482. **Registration and payment deadline:** May 1, 2016; please mail to 129 Miller St., Belfast, ME 04915. **Sponsored by:** the UUCB Peace Advocacy Documentation Committee.

FEBRUARY 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	
	1 <i>(Office Closed)</i>	2 6:00pm Membership Class	3	4 10:00am E-newsletter Deadline	5 11:00am ME Educ. Ctr. For Deaf Sleepover Event begins	6 9:00am ME Educ. Ctr. For Deaf Sleepover Event ends	
<p>9:00am Soup Kitchen Cook'n'Serve</p> <p>7:00pm Temple Fem. Divine Event</p>	<p>6:30pm Meditation</p> <p>7:00pm Coffee House</p>	<p>5:30pm Membership Class</p> <p>7:00pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00pm Women with Wings</p>	<p>12:30pm Knitting Circle</p>	<p>6:00 PM Game Night!!</p>		
7	8 <i>(Office closed)</i>	9	10	11	12	13	
<p>9:00am Soc. Justice Cmte</p> <p>10:00am Worship Service</p> <p>11:00am Fellowship</p> <p>11:30am Soc. Justice Film Series</p>	<p>6:30pm National Park Presentation</p>	<p>5:30pm Shawl Ministry (member's house)</p> <p>6:00pm Membership Class</p> <p>7:00pm Coffee House</p>	<p>6:30pm Membership Cmte</p> <p>7:00pm Bldg. & Grds Cmte</p>	<p>10:00am E-newsletter Deadline</p> <p>4:15pm Executive Cmte</p> <p>5:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00pm Women with Wings</p>	<p>10:00am Adcare Educ. Workshop (priv. rental)</p> <p>10:00am Budget & Finance Cmte</p>	<p>8:00am- 8:00pm SCA Tourney Event (priv. rental)</p>	
14	15 <i>(Office closed)</i>	16	17	18	19	20	
<p>10:00am Worship Service <i>(Food Cupboard Collection)</i></p> <p>11:00am Fellowship</p> <p>11:30am Social Justice Film Series</p>	<p>12:00 noon Chimes Article Deadline for March 2016 Newsletter</p>	<p>6:30pm Meditation</p> <p>7:00pm Coffee House</p>	<p>11:00am AUW Guild</p> <p>6:30pm Council Mtg.</p>	<p>10:00am E-newsletter Deadline</p> <p>5:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00pm Women with Wings</p>	<p>12:30pm Knitting Circle</p> <p>7:00pm Penobscot Conradancers</p>	<p>7:00pm Bacchanalian Ball (priv. rental)</p>	
21	22 <i>(Office closed)</i>	23	24	25	26	27	
<p>10:00am Worship Service <i>(Personal Care Items Collection)</i></p> <p>11:00am Fellowship</p> <p>11:30am Social Justice Film Series</p>	<p>7:00pm Coffee House</p>	<p>6:30pm Worship Cmte</p>	<p>6:30pm Worship Cmte</p>	<p>10:00am E-newsletter Deadline</p> <p>5:30pm Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00pm Women with Wings</p>	<p>10:00am Bag Lunch Prep</p> <p>2:30pm Bean Supper</p> <p>6:30pm UUSB Variety Show & Pledge Campaign Kick-off</p>		
28	29 <i>(Office closed)</i>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #add8e6; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <p>Please check the www.uubangor.org website for calendar updates!</p> </div>					
<p>10:00am Worship Service</p> <p>11:00am Fellowship & Farewell Gathering for Rev. Arthur (No Souper Sunday)</p> <p>12:00pm Drumming Circle</p>							

About Us

Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor

120 Park Street, Bangor, ME 04401-5024

Worship: Sunday, 10:00 AM

Secretary's Office Hours:

Tues-Fri, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Telephone: (207)947-7009

E-mail: uubangor@gmail.com

Website: www.uubangor.org



Our Mission Statement

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor is a historically liberal religious community, celebrating diversity and supporting spiritual growth and social responsibility in each child and adult.

We are A Welcoming Congregation

We welcome individuals and families of all religious upbringings, racial and ethnic backgrounds and sexual orientations. We, a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

We are A Green Sanctuary

The UU Society of Bangor, recognized as a Green Sanctuary by the Unitarian Universalist Association, endeavors to incorporate care for the Earth into its worship and religious education while working to promote environmental justice and sustainable living. We covenant to affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part.

Contacts

Interim Minister: Rev. Arthur Vaeni, revartvaeni@mac.com

Minister Emerita: Rev. Becky Gunn (retired)

Music Director: Nancy Lewis, nancy.lewis@umit.maine.edu

Religious Educ. Director: Karen Childs, uubangorre@gmail.com

Church Administrator: Susan Vernal, uubangor@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Team: Call Church Office (207) 947-7009 and leave message; or, call Phyllis Havens' cell 944-0181 and leave message; someone will return your call.

Church Council: *Council meets at 6:30 PM on the third Wednesday of each month.*

Chris Packard, Chair; Bridgette Chalila, Vice Chair; Rosemary Parsons, Treasurer; Michele Caitlyn-Strout, Clerk; Charles Boothby; Valerie Carter; Catherine Foxson; Cary Jenson; Ted Pierson

About Our Newsletter

The Chalice and Chimes is published ten times a year (Sept-June). The deadline for submissions is the 14th day of each month. Contributions are solicited and should be sent to the Administrator/Editor at the church office. An email reminder is sent out to all member and friends on the church's database mailing list when the newsletter has been posted to the church website, where it may be viewed or down-loaded. It is also available in paper format on the table by the sanctuary entrance and by US mail (request from the Church Office).

Editorial Policy

Articles submitted for publication in the *Chalice & Chimes* must strive to include, in an unbiased way, only that information that is consistent with the UU faith. Articles should deal with issues of a spiritual nature meant to inspire, encourage, educate, or inform. Although every effort will be made to be inclusive, the Editor reserves the right to determine which articles are accepted for publication. The Editor has the right to edit for space, availability, libelous remarks, or unwarranted personal attacks. The Editor also reserves the right to refuse any item that may affect our Tax Exempt Status.