CHALICE & CHIMES

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF UUSB

FEBRUARY 2022

THIS MONTH IN WORSHIP

February 6th and 13th, we will continue to hold our weekly worship services on Zoom using our new Audio Visual Streaming (AVS) system. We have used the system a couple of times to test it out. We are making some improvements to make the sound more consistent. Thanks for your feedback. We appreciate your patience as we make the necessary adjustments.

On February 20, we plan to offer our first "Multi-Platform" worship service with an in-person component. When we move into the new multi-platform services, be mindful that the worship experience will be very different for both the people in the sanctuary and online. It is extremely important that people read the E-news updates about the in-person component of this new format.

People wanting to participate should expect the following changes to Sunday morning:

- **Proof of vaccination** will be checked and required (including booster if eligible). You can help by sending a copy of your vaccination card to Christine in the office. She will maintain a list of people pre-checked to aid greeters who will be checking for proof of vaccinations.
- Wearing a mask the entire time will be required. Bring your own we will have some medical procedural masks on hand, though we highly recommend N95 or KN95 masks.
- An usher may assign you a seat (this allows our ushers to efficiently use our sanctuary space for maximum seating).
- There will be no singing or live music in the sanctuary. Music and hymns will be played and displayed on a new video screen. Singing in the sanctuary remains highly risky and would entail greater distancing.
- We may ask people to pre-register for worship services. Our best estimate is that we have room for about 62 people in the sanctuary while maintaining social distance. Once we fill those seats, we can't allow anyone else to enter.
- Please do not come to UUSB for worship if you have ANY COVID symptoms.

Our theme this month is Widening the Circle.

February 6 – *Widening the Circle* – To kick off this month's theme, Rev. Drew will offer a reflection on "Widening the Circle." This service will be led by Rev. Drew Moeller, with Sue McKay as our worship associate, Ben Goff as our Zoom tech, and music provided by Molly J. Webster and Jacob LaMontagne.

Meeting ID: 953 0979 8894 Passcode: 043035 <u>Zoom Link</u>

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF BANGOR

120 PARK ST BANGOR, ME 04401

SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

(207) 947-7009

WWW.UUBANGOR.ORG

UUBANGOR@GMAIL.COM

HIGHLIGHTS:

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THIS MONTH IN WORSHIP (cont.)

February 13 – *Ever Widening Circles* – This service will be led by Marie Porter-Manning, with Laurie Cartier as our worship associate, Ben Goff as our Zoom tech, and music provided by Linda Koehler and Rissa Moore. Meeting ID: 965 8666 0248 Passcode: 919266 <u>Zoom Link</u>

February 20 - *May the Circle Be Reopened* - Almost two years ago, our congregation closed its sanctuary in response to the then-new COVID-19 outbreak. Since that time, we've been holding services online, as we have tried to live our UU Principles in the face of a global pandemic. Join us this Sunday to officially move into our new multi-platform worship services and reflect on the wisdom and spiritual awareness living these unique times have brought, as well as what this could mean for our congregation's future. This service will be led by Rev. Drew Moeller, with John Arimond as our worship associate, Ben Goff as our Zoom tech, Tim and Judy Martin as our tech coordinators, and music provided by Molly J. Webster and Jacob LaMontagne.

Meeting ID: 973 4655 2338 Passcode: 343109 <u>Zoom Link</u>

February 27 - Some We Love; Some We Hate; Some We Eat - We will explore humankind's relationship with animals, based on a book by psychologist and anthrozoologist, Hal Herzog, with the same name. This provocative topic was selected by Joseph Zydlewski, as the winner of the 2021 sermon topic auction item. This service will be led by Rev. Drew Moeller, with Phyllis Havens as our worship associate, Tim and Judy Martin as our tech coordinators, and music provided by Molly J. Webster and Jacob LaMontagne Meeting ID: 928 0909 9710 Passcode: 431523 <u>Zoom Link</u>

February's worship theme is "Renewing Faith."

Suggestions Wanted!

Do you have a poem, reading, piece of music, story, or personal experience that relates to a monthly theme?

If yes, we'd love to hear about it! Share your suggestion with Rev. Drew, Molly, or Laurie. We'll try to include your suggestions in an upcoming worship service.

Your suggestions make our worship experience even richer!

Upcoming Worship Themes

April: Awakening May: Nurturing Beauty June: Celebrating Blessings

Minister's Schedule - February 2022

Rev. Drew along with other UUSB staff will be working from home, until social distancing measures are withdrawn. He is reachable during the office hours listed below either online or via phone.

Mon - Minister's Sabbath Day (day off)

Tues, Wed, Fri – 10 to 1 PM – Office hours (ONLINE or by PHONE) 2 to 4 PM – by Appt.

Thurs - Sermon Writing / Worship Planning Day (not taking calls or answering emails)

- Saturdays By appointment (ONLINE or by PHONE)
- Sundays (afternoon / evenings by appointment) (ONLINE or by PHONE)

Note: **February 11-14** - Rev. Drew will be taking his monthly weekend off this weekend and will not be attending to email, text messages, or phone calls.

You can reach Rev. Drew directly at his local UUSB phone number **(207)922-2956** or at his personal cell phone number **(860)655-5890**



DREW'S VIEWS

Dear Ones,

Our theme for this month is "Widening the Circle." At first glance, it seems like an odd theme for February - in the heart of the mid-winter. Yet, after some consideration, it feels like a great reminder to keep reaching out even as our instincts would have us stay at home and in cuddle-up warm blankets. It's also a great reminder, given that we are in the middle of a pandemic - a time when it feels risky. Risky because even fully vaccinated and boosted people are contracting CoVid, and we want to remain safe and healthy.

The whole situation creates a dichotomy of being as we try to care for our bodily needs while supporting spiritual needs of Love and connection. In a book that our meditation group is reading by a Buddhist teacher and Jack Kornfield, Kornfield calls this differentiation between our bodily needs and our spiritual need for connection the Paradox of two dimensions.

The first dimension is the dimension of forms. It is the dimension of the physical world full of natural laws, material needs, and sensations of the body. It's the world that people most immediately relate to - it is the first dimension of Maslow's hierarchy of needs - food, clothing, and shelter. In this physical dimension, things are demanding both physically and mentally.

The other dimension is the non-physical one. The spiritual realm says we are all connected to everything and that our lives play an essential part in everything. This is the dimension of the Divine, the (W)holy and Love. This is the dimension of limitlessness. It is the realm of infinite possibility and bliss that we all long to live in, beyond our physical beings.

Jack Kornfield, quoting one of his teachers, says, 'The dimension of forms says we are nothing, dimension of Spirit says we are everything and somewhere in between, we live."

The world of forms has forced us to focus more on

BY REV. ANDREW MOELLER

the physical realm in our current situation. The physical dimension keeps us indoors to protect ourselves from the winter cold, and needs to wear masks and socially distance to protect from COVID.

We have been forced to live in this realm more and more during the pandemic, to the point that the spiritual side of our being has been diminished, and connection from in-person gatherings that are so vital to mental and spiritual well being has been neglected in service of preserving our physical or embodied beings.

Throughout this pandemic, our community has done a great job caring for both our community's physical and spiritual sides.

In the name of the greater good, I am proud to say that we have focused a lot on the practical and physical well-being of our members, friends, and guests. And, as we continue to live through this pandemic, it has become increasingly evident in the long run online worship and congregational activities, while helpful in some ways, are also limiting to our spiritual and mental well-being.

Thanks to a generous legacy gift from Teddy Weston and the ongoing efforts of Ben Speed, Council, and several others along with myself, our new Audio, Visual, Streaming (AVS) system is ready to be rolled out this month. Starting February 20, our worship service will take on a new "multiplatform" form.

This new form of worship will allow people who feel comfortable being at church in-person to follow several COVID precautions - outlined in the worship section of this newsletter (PLEASE READ THAT SECTION BELOW). This new form of worship will also allow for an enhanced online experience for people who cannot physically join us in the sanctuary.

The experience of this new multi-platform of worship will be different. It presents compromises and benefits for everyone. And I believe that it will

DREW'S VIEWS (CONT.)

provide us with the best possible mix, allowing us to expand our circle and live into the "somewhere in-between" the physical and spiritual dimensions we currently live.

With great sadness, I also note the passing of two of our dear members this past month, Becky Anderson and Charlie Boothby.

We have set a May 14 date for Becky Anderson's memorial. We are still working on a date for Charlie Boothby's memorial sometime between Easter and Memorial Day. Stay tuned for details in the *Chalice* & *Chimes* and e-news. Thank you to everyone who has reached out to the Anderson and Boothby families with your condolences, meals, gifts of flowers, and prayers. I continue to be grateful for how we live our faith by showing up for people in our community and healthy and supportive ways - even amid a pandemic.

> Mindfulness Meditation

Every Tuesday

@5:45

Love & Namasté,

Rev. Drew

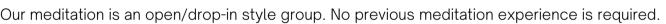
Rev. Drew

UUSB Mindfulness Meditation Group

Tuesdays, 5:45 - 7:00 PM via Zoom

This month, we will be following the format of:

- 1st & 3rd Tuesdays (15 walking and sitting meditations, and a dharma lesson "From the Universal to the Personal (A Psychology of Paradox) based on Chapter 6 of Jack Kornfield's book - The Wise Heart.
- 2nd & 4th Tuesdays (20 minute walking & sitting meditation, group check-in, and a general discussion topic - TBD).



People joining the group for the first time are highly encouraged to contact Rev. Drew drewuu2@gmail.com to make arrangements to sign in at 5:30 on their first night. This allows newcomers to receive a brief meditation instruction before the group meets and makes the first their first meeting more enjoyable. Previous newcomers have found this pre-class intro very helpful.

This program is free of charge to all - if one wishes to make a free-will offering (dana) to the group, one can donate by contributing to UUSB with "Meditation Group" in the memo line.



The Guild met for the first time in the new year on January 19th. We were fortunate to hear Meg Gray, Head of Reference and Michele Brousseau, Head of Youth Services, from the Bangor Public Library, talk about the programs and services offered by the library. Wendy Erickson, a library trustee, arranged to have the two librarians speak to us and I think we all learned something new about the library which is truly a community center with something for everyone.

Our next meeting will be February 16, when we will discuss the book *The Hidden Life of Trees*. Please join us, via zoom, for what is sure to be an illuminating discussion about these remarkable organisms and how all of life interconnects.

For more information contact Cindy Todd at 944-9375 or Phyllis Havens at 944-0181.

REOPENING COVID GUIDELINES

We are excited to share that we are starting the preparations for our multi-platform services, in which a limited number of congregation members will be able to attend the Sunday Services in the sanctuary. For the health and safety of all in-person participants, we are requiring that anyone who wishes to attend in person to be fully vaccinated. Congregation members can submit photographic evidence of their vaccination status to Office Administrator Christine Sprague (uubangor@gmail.com) for inclusion on a master list of vaccinated members. This form of pre-registration, which is already being used by local arts venues, will protect members' privacy as Christine is the only person to see the actual vaccination cards.

We hope that all members of our beloved community will join UUSB leadership and the Worship Committee in submitting your vaccination information. A list of congregation members who have validated their vaccination status will be distributed to greeters from the membership-fellowship committee to speed up the admission process when we return to our beloved sanctuary. We thank you in advance for your help!

This is the current guidance and information for UUSB gatherings with the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the constant changes caused by variants and waves, we are assessing our guidelines every month. Please look for any updates, as they may be released.

- Masks are required for all people using the UUSB building, whether or not they are vaccinated.
- Sign-in sheets with names and contact info, phone and/or email are required for contact tracing purposes.
- Committees and small groups may meet in the building, with restrictions.
 - Spaces **MUST** be reserved through the office.
 - Number of participants is limited based on the space being used and ventilation available.
 - $\circ~$ No food or drinks may be served.
 - Additional restrictions may be applied, depending on the risk-level of the activity.
 - UUSB committees and small groups should base their decisions on the safety and comfort of their participants, being as inclusive of those with health concerns as possible.
- Proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test within the past 72 hours is required for all attendees at SEE events, now including children 5 and up.
- Participation in any in-person events is at the risk of the individual.
- If guidelines are not followed, building access privileges can and will be revoked.
- This is subject to change, as we are monitoring the situation on a monthly basis.
- If you are experiencing any symptoms of illness, please choose to stay home for the safety of everyone at events and meetings.

If you have questions or concerns, please call or email a member of the UUSB Council or the office, for Council to discuss at their next meeting.



Minister:

Rev. Andrew Moeller drewuu2@gmail.com Minister Emerita: Rev. Becky Gunn Music Director: Molly J. Webster uusbmusic@gmail.com Director of SE: Karen Childs uubangorre@gmail.com Office Administrator: Christine Sprague uubangor@gmail.com Tech Coordinator: Ben Goff Council Chair: Kerrie O'Brien kerriekat48@yahoo.com Council Vice Chair: Valerie Carter vcgardener@gmail.com Council Clerk: Kate Dutra kate.dutra70@gmail.com Council Treasurer: **Rosemary Parsons** roxemary@gmail.com

Staff Working from Home; Basic COVID-19 Guidelines Update Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the UUSB staff are working primarily from home. Small groups and committees may meet in the office, but **must** contact the office to schedule time, receive approval, and verify required safety guidelines. Please check the weekly e-news and monthly *Chalice & Chimes* for updates.

Committees and small groups may meet at UUSB, but no food or drink may be served. **Masks are required for all people at all times.** Proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative test result within 72 hours before are required for attendance at SEE events.

"Office" hours with contact by voicemail or email from 10-2, Tues-Fri If there is some delay, please be patient with the complexities of working from home. I check for incoming messages from 10-2 Tuesday-Friday. I am unable to receive direct calls to the office, so please expect a delay in responses. The fastest method is email and I will pass along the info or reply by email or phone, as you request. When leaving a voicemail, please provide all necessary info.

Apologies for January & February Delays in the Office

Thank you for all the support I have received during these stressful times! For those who are not aware, my daughter caught COVID from one of the other infants at daycare last month. Unfortunately, my entire family has caught it, one after the other, putting us in a full month of quarantine. This has made it so I'm unable to go into the office safely and made working from home difficult. I am sorry for the delays this has caused in this issue of the *Chalice & Chimes*, the mailing of the physical directory, and any other inconveniences that have arisen.

UPCOMING DEADLINES

CHALICE & CHIMES (MAR. ED.) SUNDAY 2/20 - SOFT DEADLINE FRIDAY 2/25 - HARD DEADLINE E-NEWS (WEEKLY) THURSDAYS AT 10:00AM

COMMITTEE NOTES FOR COUNCIL WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

"OFFICE" HOURS

BY VOICEMAIL OR EMAIL TUESDAY-FRIDAY, 10-2 OTHER TIMES AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT.



TREASURER'S REPORT

BY ROSEMARY PARSONS

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER This report covers 50% of the year.

Total income for the month of December was \$40,145. YTD income is \$144,721, 63% of the year's budget In December 2020 income was \$27,926. Last year's YTD income was \$119,776, 52% of the year's budget.

Expenses were \$27,420, showing a gain of \$12,725 for the month. YTD expenses are \$144,721, 42% of the budget. In December 2020 expenses were \$21,705 and last year's YTD expenses were \$107,938, 47% of the budget.

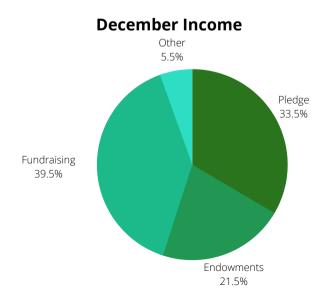
December income included pledge of \$13,444. Plate donations were \$195. Half of that amount went to the UUSB Food Programs. Endowments were \$8,644, Raffle ticket sales brought in \$9,660. Rental income was \$1,075. General Fund was \$861.

VANCO: In December: 14 people used the Vanco link to make payments totaling \$1,513.53 gross in all categories with a net of \$1,485.11. Fees were \$28.42 and the offset paid was \$37.53. Additional charges invoiced were \$22.95. Donations were: General Fund for \$612, pledges for \$747, Share the Plate for \$95, Raffle \$20, SE and Minister's Discretionary \$2.

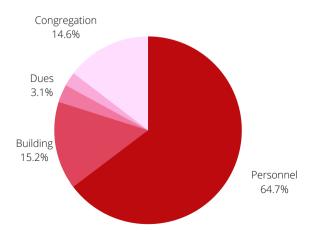
Expenses for the month break down as Personnel \$17,738 (3 pays) (65% of total costs), Building \$4,164 (15%), Fair Share to the UUA \$845 (3%) , Administrative \$668 (2%) and Congregational expenses for \$4,005 (15%) Total expenses for 6 months was 47% of the year's budget.

We now head into the heating season, with fuel costs almost double what they were last winter. And we do not have another fundraiser until the beginning of May. Thank you all for keeping up on your pledges. You make this church happen.

In Service, Rosemary Parsons



December Expense



LOOKING AHEAD WITH MEMBERSHIP-FELLOWSHIP

BY KERRIE O'BRIEN

Looking for Friendly People to Help as Sunday Greeters

Although we don't yet know when we will be back for in-person services, the Membership-Fellowship Committee is getting ready to welcome all your smiling faces. To do this, we need your help! We like to have at least two people in the Dorothy to greet everyone as they arrive for Sunday services, as well as provide information to those who are new to UUSB. This is a wonderful way to meet folks and share our wonderful community. If you would like to help out, contact Cathy Elliott at cathyelliott25@gmail.com. We will be in touch to schedule dates. Thanks!

Options for Membership

Any friends and visitors who want to consider becoming a member of UUSB can now join at any time, not just twice a year! The joining system consists of (1) completing an information request card, now available online, indicating interest in becoming a member; (2) reading through a <u>Self-Study Guide</u> describing UUism and UUSB; and (3) attending a new Monthly Minister's Tea or a New to UU Class. The Monthly Minister's Teas are on the UUSB's online calendar. The next Minister's Tea is scheduled for February 20th. The next New to UU Class will be held in the Spring. If you are interested in participating in the one of the Minister's Teas or becoming a member, you can email uubangor@gmail.com.

Monthly Tea with Reverend Drew

Rev. Drew holds a monthly tea via Zoom immediately following Fellowship Hour after service. Attending one of the teas meets one of the requirements to becoming a UUSB member. This is a little less formal and is a good way to ask any questions you may have about Unitarian Universalism, the UUSB and our commUUnity. The next Minister's Tea will be Sunday, February 20th, just after fellowship. If you would like to attend, please send an email to uubangor@gmail.com.



MEMBERSHIP-FELLOWSHIP NEEDS YOU!

This committee doesn't require a lot of time, we meet once a month, the second Wednesday of each month roughly 6:30-8:00PM. We help greet all of the people coming for in-person services. We also help to connect with all visitors, people generally interested in UUSB, and those wanting to

become members. Truly, this is one of the most fun and most important committees of our congregation.

If you are interested in joining, please contact
Cathy Elliot, Kerrie O'Brien, Even Richert or Linda Koehler.

SPIRITUAL EXPLORATION EXPERIENCE

The Soul Matters theme for February is Widening the Circle. The theme this month focuses on broadening our 'in-groups'. We all belong to an in-group or two - could be church, a sports teams, the PTA, a habitat restoration groups, or a FaceBook interest groups, the list could go on and on. These groups are important parts of our social networks.

And while it gives us a sense of comfort to belong to these close-knit groups, let us be curious about how we can open the pathways for other to join our groups and open our minds to new ideas that new folks bring along; and let's do all this while maintaining a sense of trust and safety within our groups.

While this may seem like a tall order, it is do-able! Check out the "At the Table" section of our Soulful Home packet - it's loaded with great brainstorm ideas to get the ideas flowing!

And be sure to take a few moments to flip through the rest of this month's activity pack! It is chock-full of fun games and activities, new podcasts, outdoor family activities, games, and stories. All wonderful tools to help you and your family find ways to widen your circle.

In comm-UU-nity,

FALL SESSION SCHEDULE

February

Sun 2/6 e11:15 - Zoom Rooms Online Sun 2/13 e2:00 - Circle of Trees Outdoor Family Event Sun 2/20 - No SEE Program Sun 2/27e10:00 - Youth Chapel Vestry

March

Sun 3/6 e11:15 - ZoomRooms Online Sun 3/6 e3:30 - COA Class Vestry Sun 3/13 e2:00 - Circle of Trees Outdoor Family Event Sun 3/20 - No SEE Program Sun 3/27e10:00 - Youth Chapel Vestry



Karen Childs UUSB Director of Spiritual Exploration (207) 949-0733 uubangorRE@gmail.com



Sunday, Feb 13th @2PM LOCATION TBA



Join our Community for a family-style Spiritual Exploration Experience amongst the trees...

WHAT TO EXPECT: WINTER SESSION

Due to the ongoing complexities of planning in this Covid-age, we continue to plan our programming with safety and flexibility as our top priority. For the second session of our programming, Jan 9th – Mar 27th, our coldest, wettest months – we continue to modify our multi-platform programming.

We are planning to slowly shift into some in-person events and get back into our beloved building and our newly remodeled SE Wing. We are going to kick this off holding a monthly All Grades Chapel in our Vestry, beginning Feb 27th. As we continue to get a better grasp on how to meet safely inside - hopefully soon! - we will be able to meet in our classrooms in our freshly renovated Wing.

As the weather allows, we will continue to Circle-Up in the Trees to experience some fun and interactive outdoor time.

Our high schoolers will continue to meet up to do a variety of activities, as well as to participate with our regional mid-coast youth group for larger projects. We hope to see you and your families both online and in person events throughout the Winter!

We are committed to the safety of our community, and we will continue to practice these important safety precautions in an effort to reduce risk while participating at In-Person Events.

Masks must be worn, except when eating/drinking, during all UUSB In-Person Events. For S.E.E. specific events, proof of vaccination or proof of a negative COVID test within 72 hours, for all folks 5 years of age and older, must be presented to the DSE at the first In-Person S.E.E. event you and your family attend. Please continue to practice physical distancing when interacting with folks outside of your pod.

Ferry Beach 2022 Youth & Family Camps

The Hersey Bequest Trustees are offering scholarships for our SEE youth to attend Ferry Beach's Youth Camps during the the weeks of June 26 - July 2 and July 3 - 9th.

Youth Camps are open to youth who are entering 4th thru entering 12th grade.

Families that have participated in our SEE activities this year are eligible to receive funding to help pay for the cost of your family attending one of the Ferry Beach Family Camps!

Have questions about whether your family qualifies? Please email or call Karen.

Need more info? www.ferrybeach.org/youthcamps You can register by calling the registration office: 207-282-4489 x1

Family Camp Eligible Weeks:

July 9-15 - RE Week July 30-Aug 6 - Family & Friends Aug 6-12 - Circles of Life

Grades 4-6: Kids for the Earth

Register for KFTE Week 1 Register for KFTE Week 2

Grades 7-9: Different Drummers

Register for DD Week 1 Register for DD Week 2

Grades 10-12: FUUTURES

Register for FUUTURES Week 1 Register for FUUTURES Week 2

Dear UUSB Grade 9-12 Parents & Youth:

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This year's Youth Group experience explores the theme of service and volunteerism.

Participants are not only helping out with food collection and SEE wing renovations, but are also discussing and reflecting on important questions related to the act of giving time, labor, or other resources.

- Why serve?
- How do I decide whom or what to serve? Or how much?

- What do I get out of service?
- Is it still volunteerism if I get something out of it?
- Is it volunteerism if I was coerced into it?
- What are the examples of service in our lives and what have they
- taught us?
- How do we remain mindful of power differences and healthy
- boundaries while volunteering or serving others?
- In what ways can we foster connection and inspiration when we serve, rather than alienation?

Youth Group would benefit from more opportunities to accrue context and experience for these discussions by donating time and talents. If you know of an appropriate volunteer opportunity, please contact Chuck McKay @ chuckrates@gmail.com

Mid Maine YoUUth Group

If your youth ages 15 - 18 are interested in participating in the Mid Maine YoUUth Group event in April, please contact Rev. Drew or Chuck McKay by February 28 to sign up. All UUSB Youth ages 15-18 are eligible to participate. Contact Rev. Drew of Chuck McKay if your teen is interested in participating. Remember that this year's Mid-Maine YoUUth programming is open to *all* high school-age youth; no commitment to attending all events is required. Our last scheduled event of the year is:

April 22-23 - Overnight in Bangor or Ellsworth - with a Wabanaki REACH workshop and working to help with Bean Supper or in a local shelter or fo<mark>od pantry</mark>. The deadline to sign up for this event is February 28, so there is enough time to plan and coordinate with other congregations and Wabanaki Reach workshop leaders.

COA Program

Our Coming of Age program is for 7-9th graders. This program will involve six 1 1/2 hour sessions discussing and developing our youth's ideas and beliefs around religion and spirituality.

Believe [have fait They will be connected with mentors that they will meet with to share ideas and put shape to their beliefs. The program is an amazing way for youth to team up with guiding adults to put form the the thoughts and ideas that they are trying to sort through as they enter adulthood.

Meetings:

March 6th - 3:30-5pm - Vestry - Topics TBA

If you have questions, please contact Erin Seavey @ erinseavey1@gmail.com

Important Dates & Times

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- February 13, 11:45 to 12:30 -Food Collection @ UUSB
- March 13, 11:45 to 12:30 -Food Collection @ UUSB
- April 10, 11:45 to 12:30 Food Collection @ UUSB
- April 22-23 Mid-Maine YoUUth service project

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Since I am just getting started in my role as a Congregational Legislative Liaison, I am going to include a list of the bills either supported or opposed by each MUUSAN issue group. If there is a bill dealing with an issue near and dear to your heart and your legislator is on the committee hearing arguments about that bill make contact either by letter, e-mail, or phone and voice your concerns. I've starred bills that we know will likely be heard by committees next week.

The Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network, upon study and recommendation by our Issue Groups, and in keeping with our UU Seven Principles, took positions on the following laws, bills, and other actions for the 130th Legislature, Second Session. To find information about any bill in the current session you can use the State of Maine Legislature Bill Status Search.

This list is categorized by MUUSAN's Issue Groups: Democracy in Action, Health Care for All, Climate change, and Racial, Native and Immigrant Justice. Bolded and ** marked issues are **URGENT**.

Climate Change

Bills Supported

- LD 1350 An Act To Expand Maine's Clean Energy Economy
- LD 1626 An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act
- LD 1634 An Act to Create the Maine Generation Authority
- LD 1579 An Act To Transition State and Local Motor Vehicle Fleets to 100 Percent Zeroemission Vehicles
- LD 1902 An Act To Establish a Pilot Program To Encourage Climate Change Education in Maine Public School
- LD 736 An Act to Enhance Maine's Ecological Reserve System
- LD 489 Pine Tree Amendment
- LD 1639 An Act to Protect the Health and Welfare of Maine Communities & Reduce Harmful Solid Waste
- Dept. Environmental Protection triennial water quality review/upgrade proposals

Bills Opposed

• LR 2167 - An Act To Clarify the Role of the Legislature in Sustaining Good-paying Jobs in the Forest Products Industry and To Promote Healthy Rivers

Democracy in Action

Bills Supported

- LD 231 An Act To Establish Open Primaries
- LD 1155 An Act To Require Election Transparency and Audits
- LD 859 An Act To Allow Municipalities To Use Ranked-choice Voting in Municipal Elections
- LD 1626 -- An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act
- LD 1779 An Act To Protect Election Integrity by Regulating Possession of Ballots and Voting Machines and Devices
- LD 1626 An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Health Care

Bills Supported

- LD 372 An Act to Provide Maine Children Access to Affordable Health Care
- LD1068 An Act to Restrict Access to Weapons Pursuant to Court Order in Cases of Harassment
- LD 1626 -- An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act
- **LD 1909 An Act to Remove Restrictions on Syringe Service Programs
- LD 1722 An Act to Ensure Access to All Paths to Recovery for Persons Affected by Opioids Using Money Obtained through Litigation against Opioid Manufacturers
- **LD 1861 An Act to Establish the Safe Homes Program. Requiring homes with people living there under 18 years of age to keep guns under lock and key
- LD 1875 An Act to Address Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Pollution from State-owned Solid Waste Disposal Facilities.
- LD 1911 An Act to Prohibit the Contamination of Clean Soils with So-called Forever Chemicals.
- LR 2298 An Act to Ensure Access to Prescription Contraceptives.

Racial, Native, and Immigrant Justice

Bills Supported

- LD 372 An Act to Provide Maine Children Access to Affordable Health Care
- LD 473 An Act to Create the Maine Rental Assistance and Voucher Guarantee Program
- LD 585 -- An Act to Restore to the Penobscot Nation and Passamaquoddy Tribe the Authority to Exercise Jurisdiction under the Federal Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010
- **LD 696 —An Act to Prohibit Solitary Confinement in Maine's Corrections System
- LD 718 -- An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Residents by Closing Coverage Gaps in the MaineCare Program and the Children's Health Insurance Program
- LD 906- An Act to Provide Passamaquoddy Tribal Members Access to Clean Drinking Water
- **LD 1175 An Act to Prohibit Excessive Telephone, Video and Commissary Charges in Maine Jails and Prisons
- LD 1329 -- An Act to Establish the Career Advancement and Navigation Initiative in the Department of Education to Lower Barriers to Career Advancement
- LD 1552 -- An Act to Provide Reentry Services to Persons Reentering the Community after Incarceration
- LD 1568 -- An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act
- LD 1626 -- An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act



On Sunday, February 13, UUSB will once again host our Second Sunday Food Drive & Open Air Concert, the church's monthly community food collection, from 12:00–12:30. There will be drop off bins on the Park Street sidewalk in front of the church for those wishing to donate.

From 12:00-12:30, there will also be a concert from the church's historic bell tower. UUSB's 10-bell, Meneely "C Chime" is one of only 6 genuine tower bell instruments in Maine and the only manually-played chime in Bangor (installed 1919).

We invite all within the Bangor community to step outside and take a listen. You are welcome to enjoy from the church lawn, surrounding areas, or your car, but please wear masks and social distance.

The food collected is given to the Ecumenical Food Pantry in Bangor. They can also take monetary donations, which buys up to six pounds of food for every dollar given. Make checks out to Bangor Ecumenical Food Cupboard (Bangor EFC), and we'll keep feeding souls.

In 2021, you contributed 3,193 pounds!!! We started 2022 off with 227 pounds in January! You are making a difference!

What Are Grocery Cards? And, Why Buy Them?

So, you want to know, "What are grocery cards?" Good question!

Grocery cards are Hannaford gift cards that UUSB sells as a type of fundraiser. We purchase the gift cards in bulk directly from Hannaford with a 5% discount. This means that, by purchasing grocery cards from UUSB, you are able to donate 5% of your grocery bill to UUSB without increasing your grocery bill!

The Hannaford gift cards, aka grocery cards, can be used for almost all purchases at Hannaford. The very limited exceptions being money orders, money transfer services, utility bills, and returned check fees. Most grocery cards purchased through UUSB also can not be used for tobacco or alcohol.

Now that you know what they are and how easy it is to give a few extra dollars to UUSB without any extra spending, I bet you want to know how you get your grocery cards. No need to worry because it is easy to start getting your cards at any time, using the following info.

Grocery Cards are available! Convenient to carry! Every purchase helps UUSB!! Cards are available in increments of \$25, \$50 or \$100. Email or call for pick-up or delivery. Cash or checks made out to UUSB are accepted. Buy for your own grocery shopping! Buy cards for gifts! Buy to donate to a local food bank! Cards are also available at the monthly

Ringing Bells & Feeding Souls events. The next will be November 14th at 12:00. For purchase and pickup or delivery, contact:

Tim & Judy Martin 942-2696 jamandtim@myfairpoint.net 10 Highland Ct off Union St. OR delivery ANYWHERE

Rosemary Parsons 327-1045 roxemary@gmail.com Delivering in the Orono/Old Town/Hudson area.

FEBRUARY 13 @12:30 Spirit of Drumming

On the second Sunday each month, we will be meeting in the sanctuary for drumming! Note that we will be masked, distanced, proof of vaccination is mandatory, and there will be a sign-in sheet. Drums are available to share and/or bring your own. We will not do any singing.

We hope you will be able to join us. Contact Laurie at 944-0650 with any questions.

Chalice Side Chat

Tuesdays at 7:30 PM

Join Sue Henri-Mackenzie and other members of our community each week on Zoom. Each session is a chance to offer and receive support and check in with those we miss seeing in person.

Please check your email for the login link or use the following info to call in! Meeting ID: 881 4667 4374 Passcode: 137985



Photo by Chris Montgomery via Unsplash



SHARE THE PLATE



Every Sunday, we share half of our undesignated plate offerings with an organization that works toward our UU values. In February, half of the undesignated funds in the plate will go to MUUSAN. The Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network is a statewide advocacy and public policy network anchored in our Unitarian Universalist faith and animated by its principles. This legislative ministry links Maine's 22 Unitarian Universalist congregations to promote just, humane laws and policies in keeping with our UUA Seven Principles.

You can give to the collection plate through the UUSB website and Vanco or by mailing a check to the church office.



In January, we gave half of our undesignated plate offerings, \$100, to the BARN, Bangor Area Recovery Network, in Brewer. They are an addiction recovery community center that aims to provide peer-based services, education, outreach, and advocacy, as well as offer a safe haven for those seeking recovery, their loved ones, and our communities.



UPCOMING EVENTS The Who, What, Where, & When to find UU online

HOSTED BY UUSB REGULARLY

Sundays @10:00 AM

Worship Service

Join us weekly on Zoom. Find the link, meeting ID, and password in the weekly enews.

Tuesdays @5:45 PM

Mindfulness Meditation Group

Join Rev. Drew for our regular Mindfulness (Vipassana) Meditation Group. Open to all!

Tuesdays @7:00 PM

Chalice-Side Chat

Join us on Zoom to check in and find support. Find the link, meeting ID, and password in the weekly e-news.

HOSTED BY OTHER UU GROUPS WEEKLY

Sundays @8:00 PM

Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) Online Worship

Join CLF for a weekly worship service on Zoom. CLF is the largest UU congregation, exclusively meeting online. Check the enews for the registration link weekly.

Thursdays @11:00 AM

The VUU by CLF

A live Unitarian Universalist talk show discussing today's topics from an anti-racist, anti-oppressive, and multicultural perspective. Visit their Youtube page or check the weekly e-news for the newest link.

SPECIAL MEETINGS & SERVICES

Sunday, February 13 @12:00 PM

Ringing Bells & Feeding Souls

Join us for an open-air concert with UUSB's historic bells and our monthly food collection for the Ecumenical Food Cupboard. In 2021, we've collected over 3,000 lbs. of food!

Sunday, February 13 @12:30PM Spirit of Drumming

Join Laurie and LyAnn in the sanctuary for the return of our drum circle

Saturday, February 20 @11:30 AM

Monthly Minister's Tea

Join Rev. Drew and some of our Membership-Fellowship team for an informal conversation about UUSB, UUism, and how to become a member. Whether you are new to UUSB or a long-time attendee in need of a refresher, we are happy to have you!

Saturday, February 26 @4:00 PM

Bean Supper Served

The Bean Supper will be served in take-out containers with social distancing precautions taken.

2022 FEBRUARY

UUSB CALENDAR

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 5:45 PM Meditation Group 7:00 PM Chalice-Side Chat	2 7:45 PM Comm. Committee	3 5:30 PM Choir 6:00 PM Financial Stewardship Committee	4	5 9:30 AM Multiplatform Planning Meeting
6 10:00 AM Service 11:15 AM SEE Zoom Rooms	7	8 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 5:45 PM Meditation Group 7:00 PM Chalice-Side Chat	9 Committee Reports Due 6:30 PM Mem-Fel Committee	10 6:30 PM Executive Committee	11 10:00 AM Budget & Finance	12
13 10:00 AM Service 12:00 PM Ringing Bells Feeding Souls 12:30 PM Drumming 2:00 PM Circle o Trees	14	15 5:45 PM Meditation Group 7:00 PM Chalice-Side Chat	16 11:30 AM Guild Meeting 6:30 PM Council	17	18 9:00 AM Shared Ministry	19
20 10:00 AM Service 11:30 AM Social Justice 11:30 AM Minister's Tea	21	22 9:45 AM Staff Meeting 5:45 PM Meditation Group 7:00 PM Chalice-Side Chat	23 5:30 PM Worship Committee	24	25	26 10:00 AM Bag Lunch Prep 3:00 PM Supper Prep 4:00 PM Bean Supper
27 10:00 AM Service 10:00 AM Youth Chapel	28 MMYG Deadline for April Event	All Meetings & Services are available via Zoom.				
		Our first in-person service is February 20. Please see page 5 for more details.				
		Please subscribe to our e-news or join the UUSB community group on Facebook to get up-to-date info.				

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REMINDERS

ABOUT US Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor Our Mission Statement

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

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.

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.



Do you have a **CLYNK** Bag?? Be sure to have one handy, so you can easily be collecting bottles and cans to help raise money for our UU Youths' Social Justice Service Trip. The bags are in the Dorothy Memorial Room. Please contact Laura Santilli for details. Thank you for your support!!!

UUSB is always in need of volunteers – for fundraisers, childcare, teaching, and to fill positions on our active committees. The great perks of volunteering are not just the satisfaction of contribution, but the sense of community we all feel when we accomplish important tasks with others. Since we don't always know who is able to take part, please contact a council or committee member if you are open to volunteering in any large or small way.

The **UUSB Worship Committee** is looking for more member participation in our worship services and is extending an INVITATION to one and all of you to consider if you might be interested in joining our services as READERS.

Collection Plate & Pledge Reminders

One way you can help continue our outreach efforts is to keep up with your financial pledge. Without our weekly passing of the collection plate, we still need to make sure that we can pay our bills. Keeping up with your pledge allows our staff and leadership to focus on providing services to members, friends, and guests. There are three options to make is easy to keep up with your pledge:

- 1. Mail a check to the church office at 120 Park St, Bangor, ME 04401
- 2.Contact Rosemary Parsons, our treasurer, to set up a direct withdrawal from your paycheck or bank account
- 3. Donate online through Vanco. This option will be available on our website, as well as shared in our weekly e-news

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Thank you for your continued support as we all work to provide for our community.

Church Council:

Kerrie O'Brien, Chair Valerie Carter, Vice Chair Kate Dutra, Clerk Rosemary Parsons, Treasurer Becky Anderson Karen Cashman Nero Fyler Francis Grey Ali Khavari

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





UUSB Staff Contact:

Rev. Andrew Moeller, Minister (207) 922-2956 Christine Sprague, Office Admin. (207) 947-7009 Karen Childs, Director of SE (207) 949-0733 Molly J. Webster, Music Director (207) 947-7009

Due to delays caused by working remotely during the COVID-19, please be patient with responses. We will get back to you as quickly as possible.

ABOUT THE CHALICE & CHIMES

About Our Newsletter

The *Chalice and Chimes* is published ten times a year (Sept-June). The hard deadline for submissions is the 25th day of each month. Please notify the office of your intent to contribute by the 20th of each month, on the soft deadline. 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.



Newsletter Submissions Next Newsletter Deadline: February 25, 2022

The next issue will be March 2022. We value your contributions and very much appreciate submissions. When sending email contributions to The *Chalice & Chimes*: uubangor@gmail.com

