



UUSB

December 2024

# CHALICE & CHIMES

Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor



## DECEMBER SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

Our theme this month is the **Practice of Presence**.

This month, we have our Winter Solstice ritual on the 22nd and Christmas Eve service on the 24th. With all the holidays and the very short winter days, being present is a necessity.



Above: Photo by Annie Spratt via Unsplash.  
Right: The Guild donated a new couch for the Dorothy Memorial Hall. Photo by Christine Sprague.

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120 PARK ST  
BANGOR, ME 04401  
SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM  
(207) 947-7009  
WWW.UUBANGOR.ORG  
UUBANGOR@GMAIL.COM

## DECEMBER EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Showing Up for Racial Equity 12/1
- Shawl Ministry 12/3
- Meditation Group 12/3, 12/10, & 12/17
- Wreath Sale 12/7**
- Spirit of Drumming 12/8 & 12/22
- Holiday Gift Basket Auction 12/14**
- Worship Lab 12/15
- Guild Meeting 12/18
- CrUUnes 12/27



# DECEMBER SERVICES

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This year, we will be using the same Zoom meeting information every Sunday. If there is a change, it will be announced in the weekly e-news and Sunday service emails.

## **Sunday Service Zoom Information:**

Meeting ID: 965 7817 0239 Passcode: 666892 [Zoom Link](#)

### **December 1:** "Embodying Your Folklore" with Phyllis Havens & Tracy Haskell

This week, Phyllis and Tracy will explore the ways the Preparation of Advent, Practice of Presence, and the rich history of folk culture intersect, as well as the gifts these all present us this holiday season.

This week's worship team is: Phyllis Havens, Tracy Haskell, Sue McKay, and Glen Koehler. Music will be provided by Sojourner Crowley

### **December 8:** "Presence of Past, Present, & Future" with Rev. Drew Moeller

One of the most iconic Christmas-time stories is *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, who became a Unitarian after touring the United States. Today, we will look to the timeless wisdom of Dickens' epic tale and what perspectives it offers us today.

*Please note:* before and after the service we will be collecting food for our Second Sunday food collection to support the Ecumenical Food Cupboard.

This week's worship team is: Rev. Drew Moeller, John Arimond, Phyllis Havens and Glen Koehler. Music will be provided by the UUSB Choir and Sojourner Crowley.

### **December 15:** "At the Heart of the Matter" with Rev. Drew Moeller

The ancient stories of the winter holidays provide an entry point into a place of deeper knowing that transcends the busyness of the season. These stories capture life's challenges at a rudimentary level and help remind us of who we are and what we long to be. Join us to explore what these stories tell us about what we hold sacred.

This week's worship team is: Rev. Drew Moeller, Sue McKay, John Arimond, and Glen Koehler. Music will be provided by Sojourner Crowley.

### **December 22:** Winter Solstice Ritual

Join us as we welcome the beginning of winter and hold hope for the promise of spring through song and storytelling.

This week's worship team is: Rev. Drew Moeller, Laurie Cartier, Keri Phipps, and Glen Koehler. Music will be provided by the UUSB Choir and Sojourner Crowley, with Women With Wings.

**December 24:** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Rev. Drew Moeller

Ring in Christmas Eve with our traditional candlelight service, complete with familiar carols, readings, bells, and the retelling of the Christmas story. Bring your family and friends.

This week's worship team is: Rev. Drew Moeller, returning youth, worship committee members, and Glen Koehler on AVS. Music will be provided by the UUSB Choir and Sojourner Crowley.

**December 29:** "Songs of the Season" with LyAnn & Caleigh Grogan

This week's worship team is: LyAnn & Caleigh Grogan and Glen Koehler. Music will be provided by Robin Wood.



**Worship Welcomes Your Suggestions!**

The experience of worship is greatly enhanced with personal experiences and connections. This is why the worship committee encourages your suggestions of poems, readings, music selections, stories, and personal experiences, that enhance the worship experience for all. If you have a favorite piece of music, poem or music selection that you wish to share with our worship committee please share it with Rev. Drew, Sojourner (our new Music Director) or a member of our worship committee (John Arimond, Laurie Cartier, Phyllis Havens, and Sue McKay).

We love incorporating your suggestions into our worship planning. You can also bring your ideas to our **Worship Lab on Sunday, December 15 after the service**. Thanks to all who offer suggestions for December worship services. I look forward to hearing your ideas for January on the theme of - "The Practice of Story."

Again this year we will use Soul Matters' monthly topics as a general guide for our worship themes. Typically worship planning including selection of music starts two weeks before the end of the month.

**2024-2025 Soul Matters Themes**

- February - Practice of Inclusion
- March - Practice of Trust
- April - Practice of Joy
- May - Practice of Imagination
- June - Practice of Freedom

# DREW'S VIEWS

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Greetings Dear Ones,

Heading into the holiday season often involves mixed emotions: joy, extra effort, sometimes stress, and sometimes sadness and melancholy.

This mix of emotions can be daunting even for the strong at heart, and in the wake of much uncertainty and social change. This year things feel a bit more challenging than a typical holiday season. Advent is usually seen as a time of waiting with the expectation that something unique and miraculous is waiting at the other end. This year, that waiting might feel a bit more subdued because some of the things that we have been waiting for might not be there at the end of the holiday season. As we enter into a new year with a new President, House, and Senate that does not appear to be committed to many of our UU Values.

Still, I keep trying to remind myself that despite my mourning for the state of the world in the coming year, there is still a lot we have to be thankful for, and some of the inconvenient truths that lie ahead is that we need each other more and more. This does not mean that the work we have done trying to build up a more thoughtful and inclusive world has been for naught - it means that our efforts will need to continue, and that is a reality that has not changed.

My holiday prayers and wishes for all


this year are for people to take time for deep respite. It is time to remind ourselves of what deeply matters, become present to the people and things we are grateful for, and be mindful of attending to our well-being so we will have the energy in the year to come to continue to do the things that need doing in our families, in our congregation, and in the broader world of which we are apart.

Light follows darkness, and darkness follows light. Such is the unfolding of nature, and while I believe that, in general, there is more hope for the world than ever - there is also a greater awareness of how much suffering there is in the world and how much more we need each other, and others need us. Let us take good care of ourselves this holiday season so we are ready for the road ahead - the journey might feel like an uphill slog, but it will be made more joyous by the company we keep and by engaging in efforts that make the world better for all.

If we are to listen to the spiritual wisdom of the winter holidays, from Hanukkah to Solstice and Christmas, they all teach that miracles happen when we least expect them, that even in hard times, work is to keep moving forward, and that justice will prevail as long as people continue to care.

Happy Holidays to you all. I look forward to celebrating them and traveling with you into the New Year together!

Namasté and Love,



Rev. Drew

P.S. Since the departure of Karen Childs in November several people have asked me about what her connection to the congregation will be in the coming years. The answer lies in the professional guideline of the Liberal Religious Educators Association which is a professional association for those working with young people in our congregations.

Their guidance on departures and transitions of religious educators from congregations are as follows:

*"When leaving a position of religious education leadership for any reason, I will refrain from being involved in selecting my successor. I will support my successor by leaving room for them to establish their identity and leadership in the congregation. I will not accept positions on policy-making bodies in the congregation or community (such as the Board, Religious Education Committee, Finance Committee, or Personnel Committee) for two years after my professional leadership has been concluded in that congregation. I will not accept or volunteer for roles in the religious education program for two years. I will encourage congregation members to speak to the current religious educator or other appropriate persons for answers to all current religious education issues or concerns. I will refrain from discussing any church/congregational matters on social media with congregants from a former church for a period of two years."*

Reference from LREDA Administrator: When the code was drawn up, it was recognized that many religious educators were previously members of the congregation they served. Therefore, the code was written not to force them to leave the congregation but to respect boundaries.

This means that Karen is welcome to come and participate in the life of our congregation. She is not to take on any leadership role in the congregation for at least two years. If you have a question or want to ask her about something related to her previous role you should re-direct your question to the minister or the Spiritual Education Action League (or others who are doing the work of leading our Spiritual Exploration Program. Do not contact Karen directly and if you do expect that she will give you the same message.

This is important so there is clear separation both for UUSB and Karen and it will allow our team working to find a new Spiritual Exploration staff lead to better understand what the needs of the congregation are in regards to this position for the future. Please be mindful of these boundaries. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me directly. I have discussed these boundaries with Karen and she is in agreement with these guidelines from the LREDA - the professional associate of which she is a part.

In gratitude for your cooperation,  
Rev. Drew, Minister (wearing my staff supervisor hat).

## STAFF

Rev. Andrew Moeller,

*Settled Minister*

drewuu2@gmail.com

Christine Sprague,

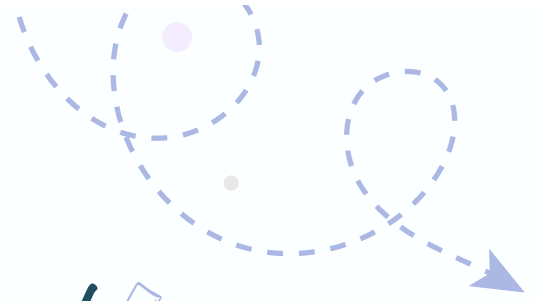
*Office Administrator*

uubangor@gmail.com

Sojourner Crowley,

*Music Director*

uusbmusic@gmail.com



Happy Holiday!

*Sending you warm wishes for a delightful holiday season.*

The UUSB Staff



# MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

## Sunday

- 10:00 AM UUSB Service
- Afternoon/Evening by Appointment

## Monday

- *Minister's Sabbath: Unavailable*

## Tuesday

- 10:00-1:00 Open Office Hours
- 2:00-4:00 By Appointment

## Wednesday

- 10:00-1:00 Open Office Hours
- 2:00-4:00 By Appointment

## Thursday

- *Writing Day: Unavailable*

## Friday

- 10:00-1:00 Open Office Hours
- 2:00-4:00 By Appointment
- *Not Available After 4:30*

## Saturday

- By Appointment Only

### Please Note:

Rev. Drew's regular weekend off for the month is November 29 - December 2

Rev. Drew will be traveling for Christmas Break from December 26 - January 1.

He will be away for professional development January 9 - 16.

While Rev. Drew does have open office hours, he often has morning meetings that may occur during that time. You may want to call ahead, just to check.

Rev. Drew is also available by appointment outside of offices by appointment. Contact Rev. Drew directly to make an appointment.

## COUNCIL

Sue McKay, *Chair*

Zach Falcon, *Vice Chair*

Tom Armstrong, *Clerk*

Eric Strong, *Treasurer*

Kim Boucher

Francis Grey

Tracy Haskell

Tim Martin

Erin Seavey

# COUNCIL CRIER

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Dear UUSB Community,

In a week's time I will have turned the last page in my 2024 calendar. For many it has been another year of highs and lows, of joys and sadness. Through it all, the earth has carried us along and here we are once again at December. There is much happening within our UUSB community this month, so I am going to keep this

month's Crier short.

Council, led by the efforts of Tim Martin, have been developing a protocol to determine when we would open our doors as an emergency warming center. We have been exploring how best to assist our unhoused neighbors, while maintaining safety and security within in building. Willie and his team from from Needle Point Sanctuary have agreed to manage the center.

Sue McKay, Patti Woolley and LyAnn Grogan have been reviewing UUSB's Personnel Manual updating and editing as needed. A draft is in the works and Council is looking forward to setting eyes upon the outcome of all their efforts.

Erin Seavey, with the SEAL Team, have taken on the task of developing a job description for an acting DSE position. Council is hoping to review the document prior to Thanksgiving and soon after begin a search to fill this temporary position. Council values the Spiritual Exploration Experience at UUSB is keen to see our youth fully engaged in joyful, meaningful programming this year.

When you attend the Holiday Gift Basket Auction on December 14, keep a look out for the Council Basket- "Love is at the Center" is our theme. Our basket is an opportunity to peek into what represents "love" to the members of Council!

Lastly, once again, a message of gratitude and thanks for our Beloved UUSB Community. Council is grateful for everyone for pitching in, in whatever way you have done; from participating in Fellowship Hour, helping with a clean up day, working on a fundraiser, participating in a committee, greeting a visitor, smiling as you pass in the hallway or for simply showing up and being with us.

A reminder that all are welcome to attend Council meetings, our next will be held on December 18, 2024 at 6:30 pm., if interested please email [uusbclerk@gmail.com](mailto:uusbclerk@gmail.com) for the ZOOM link.

In Faith,

Tracy Haskell



## **Celebrate the holidays with a beautiful UUSB-decorated wreath or swag!**

**Pre-order ahead to reserve your wreath or swag!** Wreaths will be **\$27**. Swags will be **\$10**.

You can pick up your **reserved** wreaths and swags on **December 7** from **10:00-12:00** in the **Dorothy Memorial Hall**. From 12:00-2:00, doors will be open to the general public, members, and friends who did not preorder. Cash or check only.

Contact Wendy Erickson to place your order at [wendyllynnerrickson@gmail.com](mailto:wendyllynnerrickson@gmail.com) or (207) 404-0141. Wendy will reply to your request to confirm that your order has been received

These double-sided 12" wreaths are made at Piper Mountain Christmas Tree Farm and decorated by our own UUSB talented elves. Each wreath is unique!

These wreaths have become a UUSB holiday tradition. If you want to be one of the decorator elves, please contact Sue McKay at [swm4631@gmail.com](mailto:swm4631@gmail.com) or text (207) 478-4631.



When the leaves turn color and start to fall and the days are shorter and cooler our thoughts naturally turn to... Gift Baskets! The Gift Basket Committee has been busy planning for the annual auction which will take place on December 14. The gift basket donations from the church committees, groups, and individual church members ensures that we have a nice assortment of interesting and enticing baskets.

Here are dates to remember if you jump into the gift basket mania.

Submit your item list and photo to Cathy Elliott by **December 2**.

Join the auction on **December 14!**

Baskets should be at least \$35.00 in value. If you need the basket itself to fill up, we do have a few empties, or you can use a container such as a tin, decorative bag, colorful box - something that works well with your theme.

If you have any questions, contact Suzanne Kelly, Cindy Todd, Kayla Strong, or Cathy Elliott. Join us for this favorite--and always fun--holiday fundraiser!



# UUSB BUILDING

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Your friendly neighborhood admin here!

I wanted to address some of the concerns that seem to be floating around in regards to people renting and using UUSB and how it impacts our ability to use the building as a congregation. If you get to the end and have questions or concerns, please make sure to contact me in the office and I am happy to clarify. I am the primary contact for all building use, whether it is UUSB scheduling or external rental events. I want to make sure that people understand and feel safe and comfortable with how our building is being used.

In my time here at UUSB, building use has been a wildly varied experience. By the time I had started to understand the rules and feel comfortable with everything, we closed the building for the pandemic. During those years, the building was used very rarely, mostly by community outreach groups for their work, as well as a homeschool co-op.

When we finally reopened, we had lots of old relationships return, lots of new relationships to balance, and, of course, our needs as a congregation. We balanced pandemic protocols and community comfort and the desire to return to “normal” at a speed that made everyone feel heard and respected.

Things finally settled down a bit, with our regular rental groups using the building and some of our committees and small groups returning to meeting here at UUSB. Then, last year, we added

Needlepoint Sanctuary to the roster. Or, at least, it must feel that way for many in our community. Peace and Justice Center introduced us to Needlepoint Sanctuary a few years ago, during the pandemic, for storage needs in between outreach efforts. PJC was already renting some storage space and the Bangor Homeless Outreach Coordinator was renting storage space, so adding NPS to the roster made perfect sense at the time.

Since then, UUSB and NPS have built a solid relationship of mutual support. Needlepoint Sanctuary has rented space to host meetings, trainings, celebrations, and just about anything you can think of. They’ve also sent many other people to us to rent for their events and meetings. Last year, Needlepoint Sanctuary began renting the old minister’s and administrator’s offices above the Dorothy Memorial Hall. They use the space for administrative tasks, community organizing, and meetings. They pay to use the office space, as well as paying to rent spaces for meetings and community organizing.

For those who don’t know, NPS has built a strong relationship with some of the people most involved with caring for our building. UUSB has a beautiful building, but it is *big* and old. It can be hard to maintain and get to all the tasks with volunteers alone. NPS strongly encourages community engagement, volunteer work, and giving back. This includes how they want participants in their program to treat UUSB. So, in the last year, you may have seen people painting the narthex doors or raking and clearing the leaves or sweeping and

mopping the floors or picking up litter outside. These are often volunteers and participants related to Needlepoint Sanctuary. Volunteers and participants are always monitored by a paid staff member, but everyone works hard to keep our building looking good.

I know that some people are concerned about the way renters use our building and that NPS is the most frequent group using our building. Sometimes members of the congregation may want to just stop by and do something and find that they are unable to. Sometimes NPS wants to rent a space and they are unable to. Sometimes the way we use the building will shift and that shift may be uncomfortable, while we find our new normal.

One thing that has not changed is that all building use is supposed to be scheduled with the office. If any group wants to use a part of the UUSB building and they have not scheduled it ahead of time, then they may not have access to the space. Scheduling priority goes to UUSB meetings and events, then paid rental reservations, then free member events.

To be officially scheduled and have a space reserved for a congregational activity, you simply need to contact the office and inform me of the date, time, and location for the event, activity or meeting. This includes committee meetings, small groups, fundraiser preparations, etc. First priority for scheduling goes to this category. If something is scheduled late and a space is already reserved, I will try to accommodate all requests with a space

that is suitable for the event.

To be officially scheduled and have a space reserved for a paid rental, a Facility Use Request Form must be completed and a 50% deposit must be paid. Once the paperwork and payment are received, it moves from a tentative reservation to an official reservation on the calendar. Once payment is received, if a congregational event needs a space, I will try to shift things so that everyone has access to what their event needs to succeed.

To be officially scheduled and have a space reserved for a member event, I need a Facility Use Request Form completed and notice that it is a member's one "member event" per year. Member events must be approved by Council and must not violate regulations related to our non-profit status. These are intended for celebrating the milestones and life events of our members. These are the lowest priority for scheduling and are likely to be shifted to another space, if needed, except in the case of weddings or memorials. You can see the full policy for more information.

All this to say, UUSB always has access to the building within the bounds that have been established for years. Rental income is a large part of our budget and a big part of the potential income that we could have. It may rub people the wrong way to have to more strictly follow building use guidelines, but settling into this new normal has the chance to help us do even more good in our community. In these times, we all need all the good we can find and do.

Once again, if you have a concern or question, or an issue comes up, please contact me as quickly as possible. Items may be left behind, moved, taken, damaged. People may be using a space they didn't reserve. Whatever the case may be. The only way I can make sure we are all following the rules and working together smoothly is to have people let me know when things aren't as smooth as we want. And if you need

to do some work at UUSB, such as for fundraisers or preparations, just let me know and we can get your reservation on the calendar too.

UUSB is a big building and a community with a big heart; there is room here for all of us.

Yours in commUUnity,  
Christine Sprague  
Friendly Neighborhood UUSB Admin

## December Office Hours & Closures

The in-person office hours are generally 10:00 to 2:00 on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.

The office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25 through January 1 due to Winter Break.

If you have an urgent need during Winter Break, I will be checking the office email and voicemail during my regular office hours.



## Important Publication Deadlines

The **Chalice & Chimes** submission deadline for FY2025 is the **20th of each month**. Late submissions can be posted on the website, in the e-news, or the Sunday announcements. The next deadline is December 20.

## Submit Announcements by Fridays

To have an announcement read on Sunday morning, it must be submitted to Rev. Drew or the office by Friday before the service.



*Chalice & Chimes* Deadline:  
Friday, December 20

Weekly E-News Deadline:  
Thursdays @10:00

In-Person Office Hours: 10:00-2:00  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

# MEMBERSHIP-FELLOWSHIP

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## Fellowship Hour

We hope you'll join us Sundays following the service in the Dorothy for socializing and refreshments. The refreshments are provided and served by volunteer teams. Each team serves four times a year. If you'd like to join a team, contact Cathy Elliott at [cathyelliott25@gmail.com](mailto:cathyelliott25@gmail.com).

Our Fellowship Hour Teams and Leaders for October are:

Dec. 1 Team G - Judy & Tim Martin

Dec 8 Team E - Erin Seavey

Dec. 15 Team I - Rob Spreng

Dec. 22 Team H - Patti Woolley

Dec. 24 Team J - Patty Alcott

Dec. 29 Team D - Valerie Carter

Thank you to all who make our Fellowship Hour so enjoyable!

## Looking for People to be Sunday Greeters

We need a few more volunteers to welcome people to our Sunday services. This is a wonderful way to connect to folks and be helpful. If you would like to help out, contact Cathy Elliott at [cathyelliott25@gmail.com](mailto:cathyelliott25@gmail.com).

## New to UU Class

Twice a year, we dedicate part of the Sunday service to welcome and celebrate our newest members. The next New Member Sunday will be November 24. Please join us that Sunday to meet our new members and extend a warm welcome.

## Becoming a Member of UUSB

If you want to become a member of our congregation, here's what's required:

1. Attend a Chat with the Minister or a New to UU class.
2. Read our self-study guide, Getting to Know Us, available on our website at: <https://uubangor.org/new-to-uusb-2/uusb-self-study-guide/>
3. Complete a Request for Membership form and a Pledge form, also on our website (same address as the self-study guide).
4. Sign the UUSB Membership Book

## Questions?

Email UUSB at: [uubangor@gmail.com](mailto:uubangor@gmail.com) or call 207-947-7009.

The next Membership/Fellowship Committee Meeting will be held Wednesday, November 13, 6:30 - 8pm at Linda Sisson's house.

The Membership/Fellowship Committee would love to hear from you! Please get in touch with us with your suggestions, questions or whatever is on your mind.

Linda Sisson [contrabanjo@gmail.com](mailto:contrabanjo@gmail.com), Cathy Elliott [cathyelliott25@gmail.com](mailto:cathyelliott25@gmail.com),  
Evan Richert [evenrichert771@gmail.com](mailto:evenrichert771@gmail.com), Eleanor Steele [elsteele99@yahoo.com](mailto:elsteele99@yahoo.com),  
and Kim Boucher [Kboucher@prexar.com](mailto:Kboucher@prexar.com).

# SMALL GROUPS

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## Mindfulness Meditation Group

We will meet on Tuesdays, December 3, 10, & 17 from 5:45 to 7:00. You can join in-person or online.

This meditation group is accessible to meditators of all experience levels, including people new to meditation. The program consists of walking and sitting meditation and a Dharma lesson with group discussion. The group intends to meet in a supportive, friendly, and non-judgmental environment. Each session is self-contained

material-wise. Regular attendance is helpful though optional. We will continue to explore the topic of Anger using a book titled *Anger* by Thich Nhat Hahn.

Drop-ins are always welcome, though **we encourage newcomers to arrive or sign in fifteen minutes early (at 5:30 PM)**. Signing in and coming early allows newcomers to meet Rev. Drew and help Rev. Drew learn more about newcomers' familiarity with meditation, as well as a chance to settle in and receive a brief introduction to sitting and walking meditation and the group process before the group begins promptly at 5:45 PM. Don't hesitate to get in touch with Rev. Drew Moeller if you have questions email Rev. Drew at [drewuu2@gmail.com](mailto:drewuu2@gmail.com).

This program is free of charge to ALL. If one wishes to make a free-will offering (dana) to the group, one can do so in person in our dana basket, cash, check, or online. Checks can be made to "UUSB" with "Meditation Group" in the memo/notes line.

## UUSB Choir

The UUSB Choir meets weekly, every Thursday from 5:30 - 6:30pm in the sanctuary! The group is looking forward to providing music every other week for our services! If you are interested in joining the choir (or in other musical outlets), please reach out to our Music Director, Sojourner Crowley for more information: [uusbmusic@gmail.com](mailto:uusbmusic@gmail.com).

Choir rehearsal will be cancelled on December 26.

## Spirit of Drumming

December 8 & 22 at 11:30 AM in the Sanctuary

The Spirit of Drumming Circle is led by Laurie Cartier, LyAnn Grogan and Jim Shimko. With a variety of drumming including basic instruction, directed rhythms, and jamming to a song or the monthly theme, we rock out in the sanctuary every second and fourth Sunday after church. We start about 11:30 and drum until 1. No experience is necessary. We have a good supply of drums or you can bring your own. We hope you will join us soon.



# SMALL GROUPS

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## Shawl Ministry

December 3 at 6:30 PM in the Dorothy

Are you interested in knitting or crocheting? Are you interested in creating gifts for beloved members of our community?

You don't have to have any experience with knitting or crocheting ahead of time to join the Shawl Ministry. Bring your own supplies or borrow some. All that matters is you come and join the fun!

## CrUUnes

December 27 at 4:00 PM at Ann Perkins' House

We welcome all single self-identified cronies who are members of the church!

Please bring a dish for potluck if able. The plan is to chat and hydrate, brief program, share, eat and chat more!

Meetings are generally on the last Friday of each month. Any questions, please call Anne at 478-7091.

## UUSB Guild

December 18 at 11:30 AM in the Dorothy

The UUSB Guild meets monthly to discuss business, share good company, and enjoy a variety of guest speakers throughout the year. One part of the Guild's business is helping keep UUSB beautiful, welcoming, and loved. Recently, they are working to update and maintain the Dorothy Memorial Hall.

The most recent update to the Dorothy Memorial Hall is the new couch! The Guild purchased the new couch in November 2024 and refreshed the area to help make sure our community is welcomed and comfortable!



## Community Bean Supper

December 28 @4:00 PM in the Dorothy

Everyone is invited to join community members and our amazing volunteers for our monthly community bean supper!

Meals may be eaten at UUSB in the Dorothy Memorial Hall or taken home in to-go containers. This allows us to enjoy the community and social aspects of this monthly event, while still accommodating those who may be unable to attend in person.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE

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## Save the Date:

**Sunday, January 19, 2025 is Faith Linking in Action's 3rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration!** More info to come.

## Democracy Work:

See if you're interested in any of these ways we hope to help protect our Democracy, given the challenging years ahead.

- Pay attention to what the ACLU has up their sleeve. Mary Ann, Suzanne and Valerie attended an ACLU Town Hall where they let us know they are not just sitting on their hands as we all await what may happen next. They have a 3-pronged approach: litigation, creating a firewall, and protest & debate. Check out their website, become a member and check in with Justice Now as we discover how we can help.
- Learn about working towards a MaineERA law. Ask Judy Martin who has committed to attending their weekly meeting to see how we can proceed.
- Get active with our "We're Counting on You, Susan" campaign that will take form after Thanksgiving. We'll need all the help we can get from both sides of the aisle to end up with the vetting process for our upcoming Whitehouse appointments and future issues we'll need to address.



## 2nd Sunday Food Collection:

Guess how much food we collected on November 10th? 253 pounds!

We attribute this to two main features: Laurie Cartier had the brilliant idea to hand out paper bags to UUSB folks on the 1st Sunday of November and then remind us all to put the bag by our front door so we wouldn't forget to bring our non-perishables on November 10th. Then, she asked 3 new UUSB attendees, Violet, Sasha and Bryan to identify the bags for their use. They did this with aplomb: bold lettering and decorations. The full bags were lined up by the stairway on the way from the Dorothy Memorial to the Sanctuary. THEN Violet, Sasha and Bryan loaded all of the food into Suzanne Kelly's Prius for delivery to the Bangor Food Cupboard. I could barely see out of the rear window!

## Remember:

1st Sunday (Dec.1) pick up your food bag

2nd Sunday (Dec.10) drop off your food!



Pictured Right: November's Food Collection crew: Violet, Sasha, Bryan, and Suzanne.

# MITTEN TREE

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This year, Mitten Tree Returns! You can drop off items at the Mitten Tree in the back of the Sanctuary. Drop off items December 7 through December 25!

This year, donations will go to Partners for Peace, which means we are looking for items primarily for women and children. If you aren't sure what to donate, we recommend:

- Mittens
- Gloves
- Hats
- Scarves
- Other Winter Items

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Santilli: [laurabngr@aol.com](mailto:laurabngr@aol.com), No child-sized items, please.



# SHARE THE PLATE

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In December, half of the undesignated funds in the plate will go to the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter. Bangor Area Homeless Shelter is one of the organizations that the UUSB congregation voted to support with our share the plate money this year. The Bangor Area Homeless

Shelter is open 365 days a year, providing Overnight Shelter, Day Services, a daily Soup Kitchen, Food Pantry, and an overnight Winter Warming Center. For more information, you can visit [www.bangorareashelter.org/](http://www.bangorareashelter.org/) or call (207) 947-0092.

In October, we were able to share \$255 with Health Equity Alliance (HEAL).

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

## Upcoming FY2025 Share the Plate Recipients

January - Shaw House

February - UUSB Food Programs

March - MUUSAN

April - FLIA

May - Bangor Humane Society

June - UUSB Food Programs





# GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

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Convenient to carry! Every card purchase helps UUSB!!! Buy cards for your own grocery shopping, which you can use to shop in store or to order your groceries for curbside pickup or delivery! You can also buy cards to gift to friends and family or to donate to a local food bank.

Cards are available in increments of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$200, \$300, or \$500. Cash, or checks made out to UUSB are accepted.

To purchase your Hannaford card and support UUSB, please purchase after the Sunday service or contact Rosemary.



- Kate Dutra: Sundays in the Dorothy Memorial Hall after the Sunday Service
- Rosemary Parsons: 327-1045, roxemary@gmail.com

# FAIR TRADE FUNDRAISER

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Every week, you can find a selection of coffees, chocolates, and more on the shelves in the Dorothy Memorial Hall. All are sold at comparable prices to what you find in grocery stores. For the same prices, you can help support UU values and organizations!

This fundraiser started with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Coffee Project in 2007. The UUSC partnered with Equal Exchange, a fair trade organization. Through partnerships like this, farmers in Central America, South America, Africa, and the Middle East can earn a fair price for their products and access affordable credit. For each pound of coffee, tea, or chocolate purchased by UU congregations, Equal Exchange makes a contribution to UUSC's activities in the farmers' growing regions. We sell the coffee, tea, and chocolate at a competitive price. It is a win-win-win situation for the farmers, the UUSC, and UUSB.

Please support UUSB's fair trade project by locating the sales table in the Dorothy on Sundays and buying Equal Exchange products!



# December

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> 10:00 AM Service 11:30 AM S.U.R.E.	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 5:45 PM Meditation Group 6:30 PM Shawl Ministry	<b>4</b> 4:00 PM Worship	<b>5</b> 5:30 PM Choir	<b>6</b> 9:00 AM Shared Ministry	<b>7</b> 8:00 AM Wreath Prep 10:00 AM Wreath Sale 
<b>8</b> 10:00 AM Service SEE Classes 11:30 AM Food Drive Drumming	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 5:45 PM Meditation Group	<b>11</b> <b>Committee            Reports Due</b> 6:30 PM Membership- Fellowship	<b>12</b> 5:30 PM Choir 7:00 PM Executive Committee	<b>13</b> 10:00 AM Budget & Finance	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Basket Auction 
<b>15</b> 10:00 AM Service SEE Classes 11:30 AM Worship Lab Justice Now!	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 5:45 PM Meditation Group	<b>18</b> 11:30 AM Guild Meeting 2:30 PM Pastoral Care 6:30 PM Council	<b>19</b> 5:30 PM Choir	<b>20</b> <b>Chalice &amp;            Chimes            Deadline</b>	<b>21</b> <b>Joyous            Winter            Solstice</b> 
<b>22</b> 10:00 AM Service 11:30 AM Drumming	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service 	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas            Day</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Office            Closed</b> 2:00 PM CrUUnes	<b>28</b> 10:00 AM Bag Lunch Prep 3:00 PM Supper Prep 4:00 PM Bean Supper
<b>29</b> 10:00 AM Service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

# 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 it easy to keep up with your pledge:

1. Mail a check to the church office at 120 Park St, Bangor, ME 04401
2. Contact Eric Strong, 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

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



# ABOUT THE *CHALICE & CHIMES*

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## Church Council:

Sue McKay, *Chair*  
Zach Falcon, *Vice Chair*  
Tom Armstrong, *Clerk*  
Eric Strong, *Treasurer*  
Kim Boucher  
Francis Grey  
Tracy Haskell  
Tim Martin  
Erin Seavey

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

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## UUSB Staff Contact:

Rev. Andrew Moeller,  
Settled Minister  
(207) 922-2956  
drewuu2@gmail.com

Christine Sprague, Office Admin.  
(207) 947-7009  
uubangor@gmail.com

Spiritual Exploration Experience  
uubangorre@gmail.com

Sojourner Crowley,  
Music Director  
uusbmusic@gmail.com

Atticus Foster, AVS Tech

## About Our Newsletter

The *Chalice and Chimes* is published ten times a year (Sept-June). 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:

**December 20, 2024**

The next issue will be January 2025.  
We value your contributions and very much appreciate submissions.  
When sending email contributions to  
*Chalice & Chimes*: uubangor@gmail.com