January 2025



CHALICE & CHIMES

Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor



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

This month, we'll learn about Maine Unitarian, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, remember and celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr, and talk about the practice of storytelling in our lives and spirituality.



Above: UUSB Choir members on the Nite Show with Danny Cashman. Right: The UUSB Solidarity Harvest team had a great time in November 2024.

JANUARY EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Showing Up for Racial Equity 1/5 Shawl Ministry 1/7 Meditation Group 1/7, 1/21, & 1/28 Spirit of Drumming 1/12 & 1/26 Worship Lab 1/19 Justice Now 1/19 **FLIA Martin Luther King, Jr 1/19** Guild Meeting 1/15 CrUUnes 1/24

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



JANUARY SERVICES

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

January 5: "The Practice of Story" with Phyllis Havens

On the first Sunday of the first month of 2025, our Worship team introduces our theme for the month of January: The Practice of Story. Phyllis Havens and Laurie Cartier will begin this exploration with a focus on the Art and Spirit of Creativity, an essence and muse that births so much rich experience as storytelling, art, poetry, and music. We will share a sermon from a fellow UU Minister from the UU church in Flagstaff, Arizona, on this topic.

This week's worship team is: Phyllis Havens, Laurie Cartier, Keri Phipps, and Atticus Foster. Music will be provided by Rissa Moore, Devin Ross, Hiroshi Shimko, and Linda Koehler.

January 12: "Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: Storyteller in Verse" with Linda Sisson & Eleanor Steele

Longfellow, a Unitarian from Maine, was the pre-eminent American poet of the nineteenth century. His views as a seeker of social justice, pacifist, and lover of the natural word infuse his poetry. All of the readings and hymns in this service will be by Longfellow.

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: Linda Sisson, Eleanor Steele, Bill Steele, John Arimond, and Atticus Foster. Music will be provided by Sojourner Crowley.

January 19: "MLK Remembrance Sunday" with Rev. Drew Moeller

In honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday our service will focus on the ongoing work of our congregation efforts of working towards greater inclusion and diversity.

This week's worship team is: Rev. Drew Moeller, Sue McKay, Phyllis Havens, and Atticus Foster. Music will be provided by the UUSB Choir and Sojourner Crowley.

January 26: "Embracing Our Stories" with Rev. Drew Moeller

One of the greatest learning techniques is relating our thoughts and experiences through the telling of stories. Sometimes, this is helpful. At other times, stories can also harm our spirit and sense of well-being. Today, we'll explore the power of stories and how they shape our lives.

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



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, January 19 after the service**. Thanks to all who offer suggestions for December worship services. I look forward to hearing your ideas for February on the theme of – "The Practice of Inclusion."

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

Greetings Dear Ones,

Welcome to the New Year! I hope your holiday time was enjoyable and renewing.

Beginning the new year is a milestone in our ongoing voyage around the sun. On a more personal level, many people see the start of a new year as a time of renewal and an auspicious time to make resolutions or set goals for the coming year.

One of my fond memories of New Year's past was sitting in the living room of my mom and stepfather's house in front of a roaring fire on New Year's Eve and drawing Runes (a form of Nordic and Germanic divination based on drawing letters from tiles representing letters in an ancient alphabet that are associated with projections of auspicious things happening in the spirit world). One might argue about the validity of selecting random tiles to prognosticate what might happen in the coming year.

The prognostications are often interesting, but the real value of this ritual is making intentional time to reflect on three things:

- first, a focus on what one accomplished in the past year; then
- noting what things one wishes to leave behind as we start the new year; and finally,
- setting intentions for things one hopes to welcome into one's life for the coming year.

This process is useful because often we start the new year feeling stressed by

what has been and overwhelmed by setting goals for the future that we forget what have alreadv we accomplished. Doing this helps us reconnect with our sense of power and agency. Identifying the things that weigh heavily in our past helps us be aware of what we need to do to take good care of ourselves and engage in the work of letting go. The last step allows us to ourselves up and be open open, sensitive, and aware of what things we wish to attract or be attracted to so that when opportunities happen, we'll be ready to take advantage of them in the future.

This month, our theme is "The Practice of Story." The theme lends itself well to this New Year's reflection. For it is in the past stories that we either remember what we've learned or become aware of what we are struggling with. In telling futureoriented stories, we set intentions of how we want to live and love.

Often, stories that we tell ourselves about our lives have the effect of creating identity, understanding, and meaning. Some of the stories we tell ourselves place us in the role of the hero or overcoming one. And more often, the

STAFF

Rev. Andrew Moeller, Settled Minister drewuu2@gmail.com Christine Sprague, Office Administrator uubangor@gmail.com Sojourner Crowley, Music Director uusbmusic@gmail.com stories we tell place us in the position of being the victim. This is important because the stories we tell reinforce who we are and what we hope to become. Often, the stories we tell change drastically when we take the time to reflect and question the facts and assumptions that go into those stories. Part of our spiritual journey is to listen to our stories, examine our emotions and facts related to them, and then claim the power to rewrite those stories based on our enhanced understanding. So, the help us grow and also provide valuable insights into reality and the seasons of our souls.

As we head into the New Year of 2025, may Love, kindness, and generosity guide our community's story. We move into the year ahead with the intention and aspirations of growing into an even more fantastic community in the year to come.

Love and Namasté,

Key Drew

Rev. Drew

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 January 4-6.

Rev. Drew will be away for professional development January 9 - 16 at a silent meditation retreat. He will not be attending to any emails, texts, or phone calls.

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

Dear UUSB Community,

I write this on a cold morning prior to the Christmas holiday. The thermometer has been in the single digits when I make my way outside each morning to enjoy my first cup of coffee. Milo, our yellow Lab, and I watch as the faint glow of the sun starts to rise and shine light across the cove. Another new day and another new

year.

Council had a busy meeting in December; approving the plan for Needle Point Sanctuary to operate a warming center on the coldest nights this season, adding time in Christine's work schedule to take on the administrative tasks associated with summer camp, and we welcomed Mark McCollough as he shared an excellent update on exploring a solar installation at UUSB.

We continued our discussion of next steps needed in order to apply for up-coming grant opportunities. Kim is providing valuable guidance and skills in assisting in this process.

Erin and Zach report that the advertisement for our SE Educator position has been posted in multiple venues. Their goal is to review applications in January.

Council was saddened to learn that Eric, once his current term ends, will no longer be able to remain as our Treasurer. Council also listened and heard how consuming, and at times overwhelming, this volunteer position is. It was decided a review of all that this position involves is needed. Rev. Drew and Tracy are going to begin to explore potential changes to the work of our much valued Treasurer.

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 January 15, 2025 at 6:30 pm., if interested please email <u>uusbclerk@gmail.com</u> for the ZOOM link.

In Faith, Tracy Haskell

THE OFFICE ORGANIZER

Find all your UUSB Church Office Updates in this space. You can find publication deadlines, office hours and scheduled closures, as well as important building updates and more!

January Office Hours & Closures

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

The January Staff Meeting is on Tuesday, January 7, so the office will not open until 12:00 that day.

The office will be closed on January 20.





Reserving Space at UUSB

If you are looking to schedule an in-person meeting or event at UUSB, please email the offices for the Facility Use forms. You can also request physical copies during office hours or mailed to you.

We have a whole bunch of exciting new or returning building users in 2025! Bangor ContraDance returns on January 24. We have a local youth theatre program using the vestry in the spring. It's exciting to see the building used build even more community!

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 January 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: Monday, January 20

Weekly E-News Deadline: Thursdays @10:00 In-Person Office Hours: 10:00-2:00 Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

www.uubangor.org

MEMBERSHIP-FELLOWSHIP

LOOKING AHEAD WITH MEMBERSHIP-FELLOWSHIP

As we enter the New Year, we look forward to new and ongoing fellowship at UUSB. We are truly blessed to be a community of people who engage with one another and care deeply for one another.

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.

Our Fellowship Hour Teams and Leaders for October are:

Jan. 5 Team B - Phyllis Havens

Jan. 12 Team C - Eleanor Steele

Jan. 19 Team G - Judy & Tim Martin

Jan. 26 Team F - Cathy Elliott

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

Souper Sundays

We will continue our popular tradition of having Souper Sundays the last Sunday of each month during the winter and spring. Following the worship service, we sit down together to enjoy a hearty luncheon of soup and all the accouterments. If you can contribute a pot of soup or a side, thank you in advance. The next Souper Sunday is January 26.

Chats with Rev. Drew

The next chat with Rev. Drew will be January 19 following the worship service. These informal, monthly chats are a good opportunity to get to know the minister and other members of the congregation while discussing our thoughts about Unitarian Universalism and how we live our faith. So grab a snack and cup of coffee and head downstairs to Rev. Drew's office for an hour or so of conversation.

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.

4. Sign the UUSB Membership Book

Questions?

Email UUSB at: uubangor@gmail.com or call 207-947-7009.

The next Membership-Fellowship Committee Meeting will be held Wednesday, January 8, 6:30 - 8pm on Zoom.

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 <u>contrabanjo@gmail.com</u>, Cathy Elliott <u>cathyelliott25@gmail.com</u>, Evan Richert <u>evenrichert771@gmail.com</u>, Eleanor Steele <u>elsteele99@yahoo.com</u>, and Kim Boucher <u>Kboucher@prexar.com</u>.



A Hearty Welcome to Our Newest Members!

On November 24, UUSB welcomed four new members: Marci Gaglione, Bennett Childs, Joshua Saucier and Bill Lagerstrom. Find the bios they shared at New Member Sunday on the following page.

Bennett Childs

I am originally from cranberry country down in Southern Massachusetts, but I have lived all over Maine for the last 6 years or so.I have been a lot of things in my life career wise, but mostly I have been a farmer. Currently I am working towards finishing my training to be a teacher through the University of Maine. Although I have lacked a lot of clarity on my path in life, one aspect of my character that has always been consistent is my sense of wonder for life. I have been fascinated by nature for as long as I can remember, but I never could explain why I felt that way or what I was experiencing. I knew that about a year ago when I first came here with my partner Josh, I felt spirit here. The experience during that service was such an overwhelming emotional experience for me. The incredible energy of this congregation I felt that day was a direct communication from spirit; divinity is found in all life. I had found the reason behind all that childhood wonder ever-present in my soul and a place for spirit that transcends all labels.

I feel so blessed to have a wonderful community here and I appreciate the support and love I feel here from all of you. I seem to never have the words to describe what I feel so to keep it simple, thank you for allowing me space here.

Marci Gaglione

I moved to the Bangor area this last year. I work for the National Digital Equity Center as a Digital Skills and Workforce Development Instructor, a Digital Navigator, and also as Outreach Coordinator for the organization. My passions include gardening, cooking, and good books. UUSB was a natural landing place after moving to the Bangor area.

Over the years I have attended many services at UUSB where both of my parents, Sue Majeau and DonParsons, were very involved for many years. I have seen more than one of my mum's puppet shows here! A life-long Unitarian, now identifying as a UU, I am very happy to be a part of this community.



UUSB's newest members at our welcome service on November 24, 2024. From left: Josh Saucier, Ben Childs, Marci Gaglione, and Bill Lagerstrom

Bill Lagerstrom

Having lived to date a long and varied life of several different careers, now briefly stated, I am delighted to have found where I am supposed to be at this point – here with the UU Congregation. I left a highly regimented home at 17 to find freedom in the US Navy, a service without rules! Still, I found myself, and a freedom to follow my life in many ways.

Three years of Photography School was followed by a stint of six or seven years as a freelance photojournalist based in Manhattan. From there, I moved into the music industry, repairing electronic gear for crazed musicians (mostly).

I then worked in pre-computer repair at the Central Office of the NYPhone Company, and had two children. After leaving there for a few years, I gave in to the system again and worked for the NYC Electricians Union for 23 years, repairing and installing large-scale phone systems for big business in Manhattan. I retired from that occupation in 2002.

During those years I found myself Called by God to found a large outreach ministry to the disenfranchised at a Jesuit Church in Greenwich Village to help people in their spiritual development. It was called Lazarus Ministries where I moved to being only on staff, enabling others to find their own ministries, to flourish, and to find their own Calling.

I am a lifelong creative with photography as my medium. Today, I am dedicated to two main endeavors: being creative and making images of beauty; and volunteering at EMMC, working with the terminally ill and the dying, which I have been doing since moving to Maine 19 years ago. There are, of course, several others.

I am married again, and we celebrated 26 years together this year.

Thanks be to God who knows my history and my needs better than I do.

Joshua Saucier

I am from Howland, Maine. I first came to the UU here when I was in high school many years ago for an event for queer youth through GLSEN. It has been a long time since then, but I came for a service here last November and felt a new connection to that same spirit that has guided me all along.

I grew up Catholic and even considered the vocation of the clergy for a time, but spirit lead me in a different direction. I have had many spiritual teachers with many different walks throughout my life and I honor all of them when I am in this sanctuary. In this church I find community and comfort in recharging my internal stoic faith with so many loving and kind people.



Coming soon on Saturday, February 1, is the Annual, UUSB Game Night!

Join us for an evening of multigenerational fun! Indoor cornhole? Yup.

Board games, card games too? Yup.

Yummy snacks? Yup.

Maybe a movie for the kids? Yup.

The fun begins at 6PM at the church and goes until 8PM, so bring your favorite board, or other game, and a snack to share and join in the fun!

www.uubangor.org

UPDATES ON PAST EVENTS

UUSB Thanksgiving Dinner 2024

Our third UUSB Thanksgiving Dinner was a great success! We had about thirteen people participate in the event and nobody went away hungry. We were blessed by a couple people who brought their guitars and provided live music and the group had a great time completing a 500 piece puzzle in only a few hours! Thanks to Rev. Drew and Pat Moulton who organized this even for the third time. And thanks to everyone who came and contributed to the meal. A good time was had by all!



UUSB on The Nite Show with Danny Cashman

Some members of the UUSB Choir appeared on The Nite Show with Danny Cashman. Check out the performance on Youtube at <u>youtu.be/Sljdi6vUXeA</u>. They sang Darlene Love's "Christmas (Baby, Please Come Home)" with Anna Roman, Opus Trio, Scott Burditt on French horn, and Brian Nadeau and The Nite Show Band.



Members of the UUSB Choir singing on The Nite Show. From left:

Linda Koehler, Linda Sisson, Laurie Cartier, John Arimond, Ben Childs, Josh Saucier, Rissa Moore, Cathy Elliott, Patti Woolley, Sue McKay, and Phyllis Havens.



SMALL GROUPS



Mindfulness Meditation Group

We will meet on Tuesdays, January 7, 21, & 28 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 <u>drewuu2@gmail.com</u>.

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.

If you want to join via Zoom, please contact Rev. Drew to receive the current meeting info.

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: <u>uusbmusic@gmail.com</u>.

Spirit of Drumming

January 12 & 26 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 1:00. 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



Shawl Ministry

January 7 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

January 24 at 4:00 PM at Ann Perkins' House

We welcome all single self-identified crones 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

January 15 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

January 25 @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.

AGING AS SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

As we age, we experience many challenges, from changing our bodies and abilities to gaining wisdom and clarity about who we are and what matters most. There is also the awareness that time is not an unlimited resource.

Join Rev. Drew and new UUSB member Bill Lagerstrom for this fivepart workshop series, Aging as a Spiritual Practice, on Friday afternoons (January 31, February 7, 14, 21, and March 7) from 2 to 3:30 PM.



To register, please contact Linda Sisson at <u>contrabanjo@gmail.com</u>.

We hope to hold most sessions in person at UUSB but might need to hold an occasional session via Zoom weather if the weather is bad. The group will be limited to 10 people, so we have time for group discussion and sharing. We hope you can join us.



ShawHouse

SHARE THE PLATE

Every Sunday, we share half of our undesignated plate offerings with an organization that works toward our UU values. In January, half of the undesignated funds in the plate will go to the Shaw House.

Shaw House engages youth who are homeless, or at-risk of becoming homeless, in achieving stability and a viable plan for the future by providing a safe, stable environment, access to essential services, supportive adult connections, and to advocate for changes that address the needs of homeless youth.

You can find more at theshawhouse.org.

In November, we were able to share \$370 with Penquis Low Income Fuel Assistance.

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

February – UUSB Food Programs March – MUUSAN April – Faith Linking in Action May - Bangor Humane Society June - UUSB Food Programs



SOCIAL JUSTICE



BUILDING HOPE shows us that there is hope to ending the suffering of homelessness.





FAITH LINKING IN ACTION CELEBRATES

REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

BUILDING HOPE: ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN MAINE

Sunday, January 19 @3:00

Faith Linking in Action's 3rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration

Inspired by Dr. King's Poor People's Campaign, our focus will be on next steps in ending homelessness in Maine. We will be showing the documentary *Building Hope: Ending Homelessness in Maine*. The filmmakers, Richard Kane and Melody-Lewis Kane will be on hand to direct a post film panel discussion and Q & A session with the audience. Our celebration will include music and a time following the program for refreshments and conversations with the filmmakers and panel members. Rev. Drew is one of the movers and shakers for this event!



2nd Sunday Food Collection:

Even with the miserable weather on December 8th we managed to collect 129.5 pounds of food! Our grand total for 2024 was 1,552 pounds.

We love our new bag distribution system with bags hand designed by Sasha, Violet and Bryan. Next food collection day: Sunday, January 12, 2025.

Remember:

1st Sunday (January 5) pick up your food bag 2nd Sunday (January 12) drop off your food!

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. They have a 3-pronged approach: litigation, creating a firewall, and protest & debate that you can learn about on their website: <u>www.aclu.org</u>.

Here's some info from Judy Martin about **the Maine ERA law**. The Maine Women's Lobby is working to build a coalition of non-profits and other parties to work toward the passage and ratification of an Equal Rights Amendment to the Maine state Constitution. Called "ERA for All," this new version of an ERA goes beyond gender to include gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity and national origin. Wording for the new amendment has yet to be determined. The jobs ahead include building a strong, statewide coalition (MUUSAN might be a good fit as a coalition member.), and putting this issue to state legislators. Ask Judy Martin who has committed to attending their weekly meeting to see how we can proceed.

This is what democracy looks like!

Please join us on Tuesdays 11:00 - 1:00 in front of the Federal Building on Harlow St. to show your support for our democracy and encourage Senator Collins to honor her oath to the constitution.

WE THE PEOPLE are the guardrails now!





NAACP Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast

The annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast will once again take place at the Wells Conference Center in Orono. Doors open at 8:00, with the program beginning at 8:30.

This year's keynote speaker is Abdi Nor Iftin, author of *Call Me American: a Memoir*.

UUSB will be purchasing at least one table. Please speak to Laurie Cartier or Ann Hartman to reserve a spot. Seats are \$25 per person, but scholarships are available, if needed. It's only 8 people per table, so contact Laurie or Ann soon!

GIFT CARD FUNDRAISER

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

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!





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SUN	MON	TUE	WED 1 Office Closed	THU 2 5:30 PM Choir	FRI 3 Office Closed 9:00 AM Shared Ministry	SAT 4
5 10:00 AM Service SEE Classes 11:30 AM S.U.R.E.	6	7 5:45 PM Meditation Group	8 Committee Reports Due 4:00 PM Worship	9 5:30 PM Choir 7:00 PM Executive Committee	10 10:00 AM Budget & Finance	11
12 Food Collection 10:00 AM Service SEE Classes 11:30 AM Minister's Chat Drumming	13	14	15 11:30 AM Guild Meeting 2:30 PM Pastoral Care 6:30 PM Council	16 5:30 PM Choir	17	18
19 10:00 AM Service 11:30 AM Justice Now 3:00 PM MLK Celebration	20 Chimes & Chimes Deadline 8:30 AM NAACP MLK Breakfast	21 Office Closed 5:45 PM Meditation Group 7:00 PM Building & Grounds	22 8:00 PM Communication	23 5:30 PM Choir	24 2:00 PM CrUUnes	25 10:00 AM Bag Lunch Prep 3:00 PM Supper Prep 4:00 PM Bean Supper
26 10:00 AM Service SEE Classes 11:30 AM Drumming	27	28 5:45 PM Meditation Group	29	30 5:30 PM Choir	31 2:00 PM Aging as a Spiritual Practice	

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 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

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.

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: January 20, 2024

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