

Getting to Know Us



**We Are Unitarian
Universalists**

Introducing
Unitarian Universalism
and
UU Society of Bangor

Revised February 2026

UUSB: Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor

Introducing the Liberal Faith of Unitarian Universalism

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

This guide, *Getting to Know Us*, includes these sections:

- A Greeting from Our Minister
- The Shared Values of Unitarian Universalism
- A Brief History of UUSB
- UUSB's Covenant
- Our Minister and Staff Members
- How We Govern Ourselves
- UUSB's Spiritual Education Experience
- UUSB's Worship Service, Committees, Activities, and Events
- UUSB Finances
- Becoming a member: If and When You Choose
- Our Annual Events Calendar
- The national Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) publishes a magazine called *UU World* that is sent to all members of UUSB. **This** article titled "A different church" that will give you a sense of UUism from one person's perspective
- **[Welcome to Our Community brochure](#)**

You can find a wealth of additional information on our website uubangor.org ... where you can also find past editions of our monthly newsletter, Chalice & Chimes: uubangor.org/community/chalice-chimes, and learn more about our many events and activities.

The national Unitarian Universalist Association website is another resource with much more information: www.uua.org

Greetings from Rev. Drew



Dear Friends,
Welcome and thank you for your interest in learning more about our congregation.

This guide, *Getting to Know Us*, was designed to help you learn more about our community, how we function, and the variety of programs and activities we engage in here at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor (UUSB).

Getting to Know Us is full of helpful information, but incomplete. After you have read it, we hope you will bring your questions to us by joining one of our informal Chats with the Minister, usually held monthly after our Sunday morning worship. These chats provide a comfortable and casual space to ask questions and learn more about our amazing spiritual-religious community; a community based on the principles of freedom of thought and belief and shared leadership.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Namasté,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Drew". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Drew

The Shared Values of Unitarian Universalism

Unitarian Universalism is a living tradition that has changed in many ways from the original Christian roots of its Universalist and Unitarian heritages, and it continues to evolve today. Most recently, this evolution has taken the form of adopting new language to describe who we are as UUs. At General Assembly in June 2024, UUs voted to replace existing Seven Principles and Six Sources language in our bylaws with language describing Unitarian Universalism through these shared values, all centered around love:



- **Interdependence:** We honor the interdependent web of all existence and acknowledge our place in it.
- **Pluralism:** We are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience, and theology.
- **Justice:** We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all feel welcome and can thrive.
- **Transformation:** We adapt to the changing world.
- **Generosity:** We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.
- **Equity:** We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion.

We arrived at this description of Unitarian Universalism after a multi-year process of discernment and discussion, writing and revision, and eventually a final democratic vote. The process of review and revision is mandated by UUA bylaws to happen every 15 years, and the language describing Unitarian Universalist faith has changed multiple times over the course of our history. We encourage you to review [the final adopted language of Article II \(PDF, 3 pages\)](#) that includes our Shared Values. For additional information, please refer to the UUA website: www.uua.org/beliefs/shared-values.

The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism

To provide some context, and knowing that many UU's still refer to the Seven Principles that preceded our current Shared Values, we thought it would be helpful to include the principles here. They are:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
2. Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

In 2023, UUSB voted to add an eighth principle:

1. We covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

A Brief History of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor

The birth of the UU Society of Bangor in 1995 completed a journey of almost 35 years that brought together two historic churches in Bangor, the Unitarian Church on Union St. and the First Universalist Church on Park St. The consolidation accomplished a historic blending of voices for social justice and liberal religious values upheld by these two churches since the early 1800s. Ministers and the congregants from both churches spoke out strongly against slavery in the 1800s. UUSB has continued that legacy of support by taking action against militarism and anti-Semitism and supporting respect and equal rights for members of the LBGTQ community, as well as welcoming immigrants to this country.

The Independent Congregational Society Unitarian was organized in Bangor on March 2, 1818, by 21 members of the original Congregational Society (Trinitarian) who found they could not live in an atmosphere they found “uncharitable, intolerant, and oppressive.” A year later, William Ellery Channing preached his famous sermon, Unitarian Christianity, in Baltimore, Maryland, and a liberal religious movement was born. The original “Union Street Brick Chapel” was erected in 1827, then destroyed by fire in 1851. The current building was built in 1853. Bangor’s Hannibal Hamlin, Vice President under Abraham Lincoln, was an active member of the congregation. Through many years, historic moments, and ministries, the Bangor Unitarian Church advocated openly and sometimes forcibly on behalf of human dignity and worth.

The First Universalist Society was organized in 1833. Until the cornerstone of their first building was laid on June 25, 1860, the congregation met in various buildings including the Episcopal church and the Methodist church. The original Park Street building was destroyed in 1911 during the Great Bangor Fire. Rev. Dr. Ashley Smith, just five weeks installed as the minister, valiantly saved the cherished church Bible by burying it in his backyard. He completed a ministry of 25 years, the longest ministry either church has ever experienced. During his ministry, the current building was erected in 1912

and the historic chime bells were acquired in 1919. The Dorothy Memorial Hall was dedicated in September 1925 as a memorial to Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Ashley Smith's daughter Dorothy who died March 1, 1924, at the age of 23, after a long illness. Rev. Smith resigned in June 1936. The ministers to follow Rev. Smith took the Park St church through some challenging periods of growth and change that brought the church from a predominantly Christian-identified congregation to a more diverse Unitarian Universalist identity.

Nationally, Unitarian and Universalist churches consolidated as the Unitarian Universalist Association in 1961. The two Bangor churches consolidated in 1995, further strengthening and uniting diverse theologies into a warm and caring community.

Adapted from the history written by Dorothy A. Hawkes in March 1999



Bangor Me, Central Park and Universalist Church.

UUSB Covenant

Our promise to each other

We are a welcoming, inclusive, progressive community of spiritual seekers of all ages. We gather to nourish our souls, reflect on the big questions, steadfastly support each other through hard times, and joyfully celebrate life.

We commit to living our principles by treating each other and the greater community with genuine loving kindness, by listening intently, and by speaking our truth with compassion.

We are guided by our commitment to the Earth and all of its inhabitants. Through our service, we work to transform the world into a place of unity, peace, and justice.

- Adopted May 19, 2019



Our Minister & Staff Members



Rev. Andrew Moeller, Settled Minister (he/him)

The Reverend Andrew (Drew) Moeller is an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister serving the UUSB congregation as its full-time minister. His commitment to the ideals of Unitarian Universalism is infectious, and he is the beloved spiritual leader of our community. Before serving in Bangor, he was a contract minister for the Unitarian Universalist Society of Laconia, NH, while also serving the Lakes Region General Hospital in Laconia as a chaplain. He is a life-long Unitarian Universalist.



Sojourner Crowley, Music Director (she/her)

Sojourner Crowley has been performing, composing, and improvising since childhood. She began studying composition in her hometown of Tallahassee, Florida with Czech-American composer Ladislav Kubik, and as a teenager performed two of her compositions on NPR's From The Top. Sojourner holds degrees in Music Composition from the University of Georgia and New England Conservatory, and her music has been performed at New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall, the New Dramatists Composer-Librettist Studio in NYC, Opera From Scratch in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and MATA Festival in NYC. Sojourner served as Music Director at First Universalist Church in Rockland, Maine from 2011-2018 and joined UUSB as Music Director in 2024. She lives in Bangor with her husband, two daughters, and their cat, Hero, and teaches piano and composition in her home studio.



Camden Ador, Director of Spiritual Exploration (he/him)

With a Master of Theological Studies from Vanderbilt Divinity School, Camden brings a deep commitment to justice-rooted, liberatory faith formation. “As a queer, anti-war veteran, my path has been shaped by the belief that spirituality must be courageous, community-centered, and earth-honoring.”

His work has spanned community organizing, curriculum development, and transformative programming. He draws from years of experience designing camps and retreats that foster curiosity, connection, and collective meaning-making. “Whether around a fire circle or in a classroom, I’m interested in how we build brave, nurturing spaces for people to explore their questions, values, and spiritual identities.

“I’m a naturalist and earth-based practitioner, finding wisdom in seasons, ecosystems, and the rhythms of the land. My theological grounding holds space for mystery, doubt, and multiplicity. It seeks to always be informed by the voices of the marginalized and the stories that institutional religion too often forget.

“As Director of Spiritual Exploration, I see my role as part facilitator, part witness, part co-dreamer. I’m here to support the weaving of spiritual lives that are authentic, creative, and rooted in justice and wonder.”



Christine Sprague, Office Administrator (she/her)

Christine joined our staff in August 2019. She grew up in northern Massachusetts and graduated from Salem State University in 2012. With a degree in English and formal training as a teacher, Christine settled in the Bangor area. She spent a year in Japan teaching English, before returning home to her husband and Bangor. Now, her time is divided between being a wife, mother, and woman. Christine has enjoyed the past years with UUSB and is looking forward to many more.



Atticus Foster, AVS Technician (he/him)

Atticus has lived in Veazie, Maine since he was five years old. He is currently a senior in computer engineering at the University of Maine, and is enjoying putting those skills to use for sound and AV at UUSB. Atticus started working in this position in 2022, and has held it off and on since then. He enjoys games of the tabletop and video varieties, nighttime hiking, chess, and skiing.

How we govern ourselves

Your voice counts! UUSB is a self-governing society. Ultimate control of its affairs rests with the members of the Society. Annually – and more often when major decisions are at hand – the membership meets in the manner of a “town meeting” to adopt policies, adopt a budget, elect a Council and certain other positions, and discuss, debate, and vote on other articles that have been put before us. Only members have the right to vote, although friends of the Society are welcome and encouraged to attend.



Council: A Council is elected by the members to provide the overall supervision of the business and programs of the Society. The Council consists of seven to nine members who serve three-year terms. Four members of Council (Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Clerk) serve as officers of the Society. The Chair and Vice Chair are elected by the other members of the Council. The Treasurer and Clerk are elected by the members of the Society at the annual meeting. The Council has broad powers to conduct the business and policies of the Society. Members interested in serving on the Church Council are encouraged to contact a member of the Nominating Committee to be considered by vote of the congregation at the annual meeting, or to be considered in case of a vacancy on the Council. Such interest is welcome!

Trustees of Endowment Funds and Hersey Bequest: Two other important elected bodies are the Trustees of the General Endowment Funds and the Trustees of the Hersey Bequest. UUSB is fortunate to have a modest general endowment, as well as a series of smaller endowments that can be used for various building and equipment purposes and to help with the annual operating budget. An independent, five-person General Endowment Board of Trustees, elected by the members of UUSB at the annual meeting, decides how to manage and disburse the available funds. Similarly, an independent, three-person Hersey Board of Trustees is elected by the

members of the Society to manage and disburse funds from the Hersey Bequest, created through the will of Samuel F. Hersey. The Hersey Bequest funds are primarily intended to provide opportunities for youth to participate in summer camp programs on the coast of Maine.

Minister: The Minister is responsible for the spiritual programs of the Society, as formulated with assistance from Council. The Minister is an ex officio, non-voting member of Council. The Minister has the freedom of the pulpit, as well as the freedom to speak publicly as an individual. The Minister aids the Council with, and has a vote in, the hiring of staff members. The Minister supervises all staff members. The staff currently consists of the Director of Spiritual Exploration, the Music Director, the Office Administrator, and the AV Tech.

UUSB's Spiritual Exploration Experience

Each week from September through May, UUSB supports a growing and thriving religious education program called Spiritual Exploration Experience. From the nursery through the teen groups, our youth are involved in learning, growing, and sharing together. The Spiritual Exploration Experience (SEE) helps youth and their families SEE from different perspectives, and how love can change the world in which we live.

Camden Ador is our Director of Spiritual Exploration (uubangorre@gmail.com). **The Spiritual Exploration Action League (SEAL)**, composed of parents and other interested members of our community, helps Camden with visioning, planning, feedback, and logistical support.

The SEE program has a volunteer teaching staff of both parents and non-parents from our UUSB community. They allow us to sustain a high level of energy and quality teaching throughout our program. Teachers work in teams to deliver an interactive curriculum that explores our Shared Values, often referred to as JET PIG:

- Justice
- Equity
- Transformation
- Pluralism
- Interdependence
- Generosity

In addition, youth ages 9 to 18, who are registered in and regularly attend the SEE program, are eligible for scholarships to attend one week of children's camp at Blueberry Cove or Tanglewood 4-H Centers, and one week of family camp at the Ferry Beach Retreat in Saco. For more info, contact Camden Ador, or a member of the Hersey Bequest Trustees.

UUSB Worship Services, Committees, Activities, & Events

For many years, the only way to participate at UUSB was in-person. The Covid-19 pandemic provided us with many opportunities to be creative, learning new ways to connect, socially and spiritually. Here are our current practices:

- Worship Services and most congregational activities take place both in-person and virtually through Zoom. To participate in these programs please contact our Office Administrator, Christine Sprague at uubangor@gmail.com and she will be happy to add you to our email lists to receive information about Sunday Services, our weekly E-News updates, and our monthly Chalice & Chimes newsletter.
- Our regular Sunday morning **Worship Service** begins at 10am. If you are joining the service via Zoom, there is an opportunity after the service to join a small group of four to six people in a chat room, so you can reflect on the service and catch up on news. If you are at UUSB in-person, please join us after the service for Fellowship Hour in the Dorothy Memorial Hall.
- Fun learning opportunities for youth (grades K-12) known as the **Spiritual Education Experience (SEE)** take place most Sundays. Please contact Camden Ador, Director of SEE, at uubangorre@gmail.com for more information.



- During the week we offer these programs for adults:
 - Our weekly **Mindfulness Meditation** group meets in the Sanctuary on Tuesday evenings from 5:45 to 7:00 and is open to all, beginner and experienced meditators alike. Contact Rev Drew at drewuu2@gmail.com for more information.

- Thursday evening our **Choir** meets from 5:15 to 6:30 to rehearse. Everyone is welcome to join in. Contact Sojourner Crowley, Music Director, at uusbmusic@gmail.com for more information.
- **Committees**, made up of Members and Friends of UUSB, are the lifeblood of the Society's day-to-day activities. They provide the people-power needed for UUSB to function and conduct its mission as a welcoming faith community. **All Members and Friends are invited** to be part of the life of the community through our committees. Here's a quick rundown:
 - **Archives:** Preserves the history of the church by gathering, filing, and maintaining materials about UUSB, from the distant past on up to current events. Makes materials available to researchers, milestone events, and other occasions. Contact: Cindy Todd, detiii@aol.com
 - **Budget & Finance:** Works with the Treasurer to track the income and expenses of the Society. Oversees volunteers who count the weekly offerings. Prepares weekly bank deposits. Tracks pledges, provides quarterly pledge reports to Members and Friends, and monthly reports to Council. Contact: Marci Gaglioni, uubangor.treasurer@gmail.com
 - **Building & Grounds:** Repairs and maintains the church building and property, which is within Bangor's Great Fire Historic District. Manages major construction and repair projects. Sponsors spring and fall clean-ups in which all Members and Friends are encouraged to participate. Contact: Patti Woolley, pwoolley1945@gmail.com
 - **Choir:** Although not a committee per se, participating Members and Friends, under the direction of the Music Director, typically sing at two services each month from September through June, and participate in special events and celebrations. Contact: Sojourner Crowley, Music Director, uusbmusic@gmail.com

- **Committee on Shared Ministry:** Annually reviews the Minister's performance and the overall state of the ministries of the Society, following the Unitarian Universalist Association guidelines for reviews. Observes, listens, and reflects on the several ministries within our congregation (e.g. music, religious education, pastoral care, and social justice) with the goal of increasing engagement among all Members and Friends of UUSB's congregation. Contact: Laura Santilli, laurabngr@aol.com
- **Communications:** Prepares outreach and informational materials, such as the Welcome to UUSB brochure in this Guide, monitors and revises the UUSB website, and helps provide content to social media – all aimed at informing the larger community about UUSB, inviting visitors to come through our door, and facilitating communications among Members and Friends. Contact: Ben Speed, benjaminspeed@gmail.com
- **Financial Stewardship:** Conducts three important mandates of the bylaws: the Annual Pledge Drive; the Legacy Gifting Program; and working with members to fulfill their pledges. Involves the entire congregation in the Annual Pledge Drive. Legacy Giving gives members and friends the opportunity to support the legacy of UUSB into the future. Contact: Kayla Worthington-Strong, worthington.strong@gmail.com
- **Justice Now:** Helps put UU values into action through wide-ranging activities related to democracy, indigenous and racial justice, and the environment in the Greater Bangor area. Justice Now works in collaboration with the Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network (MUSSAN) and Faith Linking in Action (FLIA). Contact: Suzanne Kelly, suziekrm@gmail.com

- **Membership-Fellowship:** Creates a welcoming environment for Members, Friends, and visitors to UUSB. Supports friends and visitors in making decisions about membership and, in conjunction with the Minister, administers the process of new members joining UUSB (including preparing this Guide). Greets Members, Friends, and visitors at the door every Sunday. Organizes and coordinates the teams that host Fellowship Hours after each weekly service. Sponsors several events, such as Souper Sundays and Game Night. Contact: Cathy Elliott, cathyelliott25@gmail.com and Eleanor Steele elsteele99@gmail.com.
- **Music as Ministry:** We've mentioned the Choir, but there are other ways to be involved through music, such as the Spirit of Drumming circle that meets in the sanctuary on second and fourth Sundays at 11:30 am and working with the Music Director to provide music, vocal or instrumental, at Sunday services. Spirit of Drumming contact: Jim Shimko, pjshimko@gmail.com); Music for services contact: Sojourner Crowley, uusbmusic@gmail.com.
- **Nominations:** Recruits Members for leadership positions in the Society, as specified in the bylaws, who are then posted for election by the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Contact: uubangor@gmail.com
- **Pastoral Care Team:** Lends short-term assistance and support to those in need in UUSB's community, including rides to doctor's offices, meals, greeting cards, and similar support. Contact: Rev Drew Moeller, drewuu2@gmail.com
- **Spiritual Exploration Action League (SEAL):** Provides input, guidance and support to the Director of Spiritual Education to implement a thoughtful, dynamic, and fun SEE program, grounded in the seven UU principles. Contacts: Erin Seavey, erinseavey1@gmail.com, Michelle Webb ms.michellewebb@gmail.com

- **Shawl Ministry:** A gathering of folks who create shawls, usually knit or crocheted, that are given to those needing comfort, celebrating a special event, or for other reasons. We meet in the Dorothy Memorial Hall on the first Tuesday of each month. We offer instruction, and have a stash of yarn, needles, and hooks to choose from (or bring your own). Contact: Cathy Elliott, cathyelliott25@gmail.com
- **Worship:** Guides, supports, and contributes to the weekly Sunday worship service. Provides lay leadership and supports the spiritual growth of the congregation. Worship Committee members have a visible presence every Sunday, both behind the scenes, such as making sure the order of worship, sound system, chalice, flowers, and so on, are in place, and at the pulpit next to the Minister. Recruits guests to lead worship at times when the Minister is away. Contact: Phyllis Havens, pdhavens@gmail.com
- **UUSB Guild:** Although not a committee of UUSB, the UUSB Guild is another way to become involved. The Guild was founded in 1926 as a social, service, and spiritual organization for women. In Bangor, the Guild has a monthly luncheon and participates in and initiates church and community service projects. The Guild often hosts tea service at special events, such as weddings, funerals, and other celebrations at UUSB. Contact: Cindy Todd detiii@aol.com
- **One-time, periodic, and ongoing activities and events**
 - **One-Time Activities and Events:**
 - Help out indoors and outdoors during Spring and Fall clean-up
 - Prepare and serve Bean Suppers held on 4th and 5th Saturdays each month
 - Decorate the Sanctuary for Holidays
 - Decorate wreaths for sale in early December
 - Contribute to and help out at the Great Pumpkin yard sale in October
 - Contribute to holiday gift baskets that are auctioned in early December
 - Bring a soup, bread, or dessert for Souper Sundays, held in January, February, and March

- Offer someone a ride to church
- Contribute food for a special event such as the Talent Show or Christmas Eve Service
- Come to Game Night and share a game and your favorite snack
- Come to our annual Day at the Lake in August for a picnic and fun
- **Periodic Activities and Events:**
 - Join a Fellowship Hour Team
 - Bring a snack for Fellowship Hour
 - Help with a Bean Supper
 - Prepare Bag Lunches for distribution at Bean Suppers
 - Bring a soup, bread, or dessert on Souper Sunday
 - Help in the Office
 - Pass the offering plate on Sunday
 - Light the chalice or do a reading on Sunday
 - Tidy hymnals before or after service
 - Offer rides to church
 - Help with grocery card sales
- **Ongoing Activities and Events:**
 - Join a Committee
 - Be a Counter of Sunday offerings
 - Join the Choir
 - Operate or be back-up for the AV system; instruction given
 - Offer rides to church
 - Talk to Camden Ador about opportunities to help with Spiritual Exploration Experience (SEE)
 - Contribute non-perishable food and personal care items on the Second Sunday of each month

Whether in-person or virtually, we welcome you!

UUSB depends on the time, talents, and interests its Members and Friends are able to give.

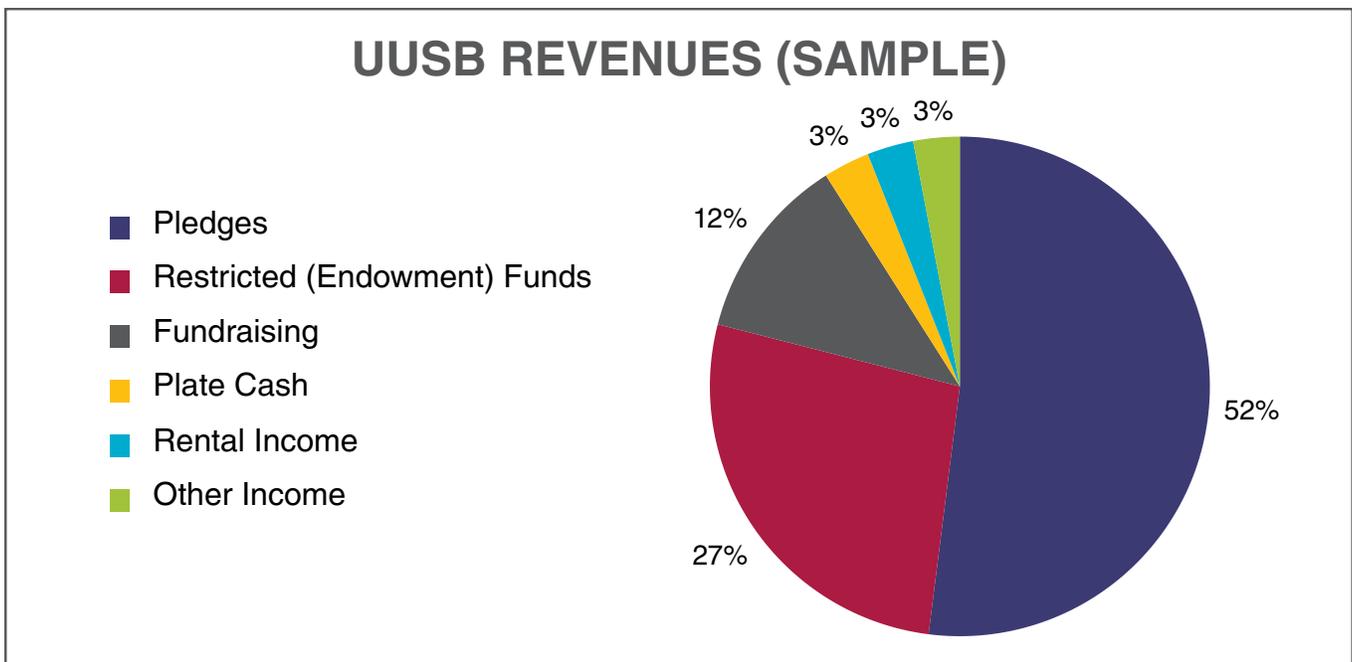
Please consider being part of the life of the Society through one of its committees.

UUSB Finances

We are the Stewards of Our Society

Everything we are able to do at UUSB, from paying our Minister and staff members to maintaining an historic church building to contributing to the food security of the Bangor Region and everything in between, is the result of the generosity of our Members and Friends. The majority of funds come from annual pledges, some from endowments left by past members, and a crucial amount from fundraising events run by volunteer Members and Friends. And a good deal of the work of the Society is by the in-kind services of Members and Friends. We are, in a word, as self-sufficient as possible.

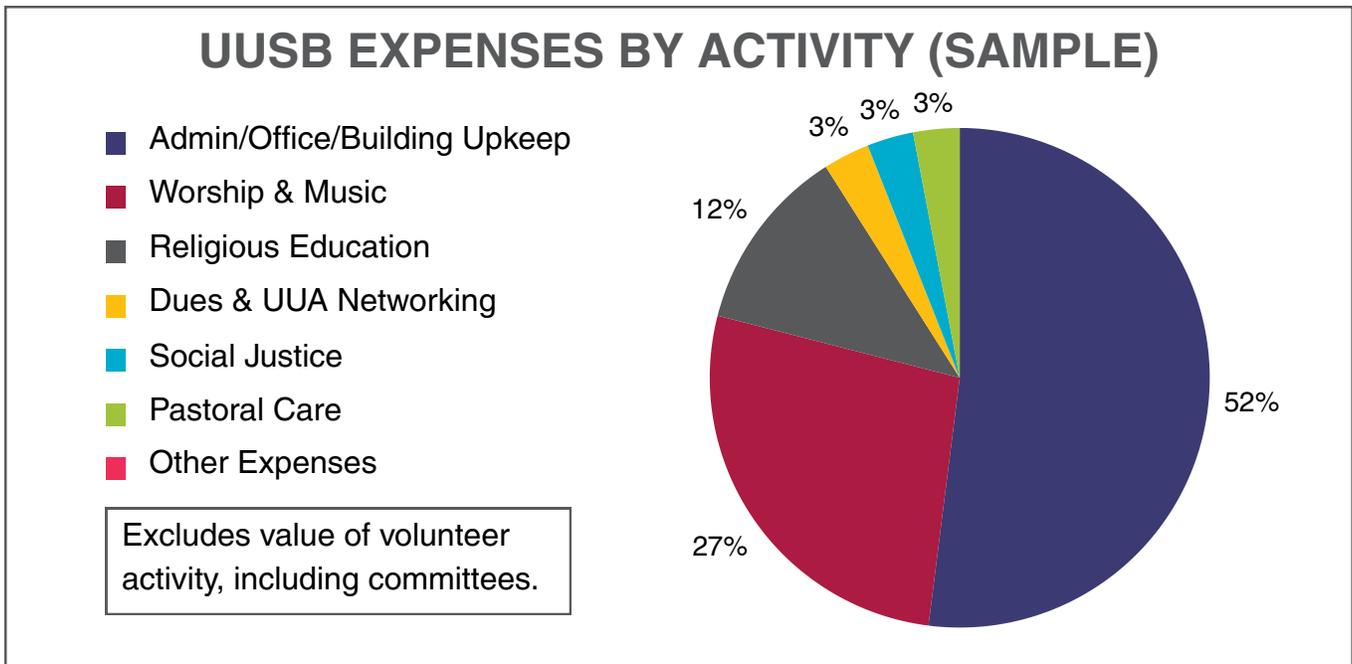
Operating Revenues: In recent years UUSB's annual operating budget has been in the range of \$225,000 to \$235,000. This chart illustrates a recent year's sources of revenue.



- **Pledges** make up the majority of revenues. Each year the Financial Stewardship Committee conducts a pledge campaign, and we are fortunate that most Members and many Friends pledge to the best of their abilities.
- **Rental income** comes from outside organizations and individuals who rent our facilities, such as AA, Women With Wings, Needlepoint Sanctuary, and private individuals.

- **Endowments** account for about a quarter of the needed revenues. UUSB has an unrestricted General Endowment Fund and several smaller restricted funds that can be used for various operational purposes. The Trustees of the General Endowment are charged with assuring that the endowments are sustained in perpetuity. Therefore, only a small percentage of these funds (around 3%) will be used in any given year. Endowments cannot be relied on to fill unanticipated gaps in the budget. The Hersey Bequest is restricted to providing opportunities for our youth and their caregivers to participate in summer recreation at the Ferry Beach Retreat in Saco and Blueberry Cove 4-H Center in Tenants Harbor. UUSB has a Legacy Gifting program to encourage additional gifts over time.
- **Fundraising** is crucial to enabling committees to actively conduct programs and fulfill the mission of UUSB. Events include the Great Pumpkin Yard Sale, annual spring and fall auctions, holiday wreath decorating and sales, grocery store gift card sales, and others.
- **Plate cash** that is undesignated is shared 50-50 with a charitable organization in the region (selected monthly) and UUSB operations.

Operating Expenses by Activity: Worship & music, administration & office & building upkeep, and religious education are the major funded activities because they include salaries and benefits for our Minister and staff.. Committee-driven activities, such as social justice, pastoral care, and outreach, rely both on dollars and a great deal of volunteer activity.



Capital Budget: Capital expenses, primarily for building maintenance and equipment, are included in Building & Grounds. The Building & Grounds Committee periodically prepares a list of required repairs and replacement items that becomes the basis for a capital budget. Certain endowment funds can be used for some of these expenses, along with funds in the operating budget. The General Endowment Trustees earmark a portion of their annual allocation to help fund the capital budget. Occasionally we undertake a capital campaign for a major improvement, such as the elevator and bathrooms installed in 2015.

More information about UUSB’s finances, including annual revenues, operating expenses, and endowments funds, can be found in the Society’s most recent annual reports, online at <http://uubangor.org/index.php/about-us/governance/reports/>.

Becoming a Member: If and When You Choose

Membership in UUSB is a two-way relationship: we welcome and need you as an active member of our community; you welcome and need us as part of your life.

Benefits of Membership

The major benefit of becoming a Member of UUSB is knowing that you are helping to sustain, for today and the future, a creed-free, liberal theology that affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every person, respects the interdependent web of the existence of which we are all a part, and encourages a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

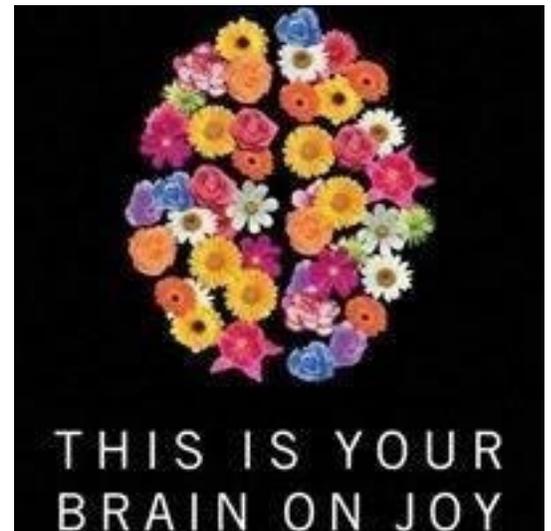
Many, some for the first time, find peace, comfort, even joy in the freedom to seek their

own truth, the support of a congregation for doing so, and knowing that through membership in UUSB they are helping to sustain an environment in which others are also free to seek their truth and meaning. And our children, through a robust SEE program, have the opportunity to grow spiritually within the same environment.

Membership gives you a voice in Society governance, including adoption of an annual budget, proposals that may arise to amend our bylaws, and election of leadership.

Membership opens the opportunity to be part of UUSB's leadership. Only Members can be elected to Council or appointed to certain key positions within UUSB.

Membership entitles you to the Minister's services, free of charge, for weddings and memorials; and to free use of the building, once a year, for "Member Events" including celebrations of life such as weddings, anniversaries, retirements, dedications, and significant accomplishments



such as a book release or an award ceremony. These represent significant financial savings versus non-member fees for the Minister's services and use of the building.

Steps to Membership

There aren't many:

- Read this Study Guide.
- Bring your questions, thoughts, and insights to one of the Minister's Sunday chats; OR to one of the Membership-Fellowship Committee's "New to UU" classes (held in November and April); OR, if one of those doesn't work, to an individual meeting with the Minister and a representative of the Membership-Fellowship Committee.
- Complete a Request for Membership form and a Pledge form (available on our website or provided to you upon request). Upon becoming a member, we also will have a name badge made for you.
- Sign the Membership Book in the presence of the Minister and a member of the Membership-Fellowship Committee.
- Be formally welcomed by the congregation as a Member at our semi-annual New Member Sunday (held in November and April).

Pledging

Part of the responsibility of being a Member is to make an annual pledge of financial support. This is what sustains our community, ministries, and services. There isn't a minimum amount for pledge; we ask that you contribute an amount that has meaning for you. The Unitarian Universalist Association has established income-based guidelines for pledging, and these can be provided to you. Pledges at UUSB range from a dollar a week to over \$100 per week. Waivers are available to Members who are unable to pledge and want to be or remain active, voting members.



Each year in March, UUSB undertakes a pledge drive to support its budget for the upcoming church year (July 1 to June 30). The drive is led by the Financial Stewardship Committee. When you become a Member of UUSB, you will make a pledge for the remainder of the current church year.

Please contact any of us if you have any questions or concerns.

Membership-Fellowship Committee members:

Jess Braun, Laurie Cartier, Cathy Elliott, Eleanor Steele, Linda Koehler

NOTE: If you are transferring from another UU church or returning to UUSB after an absence, come talk to us. We welcome your becoming a Member of or rejoining UUSB.

Our Annual UUSB Events Calendar

January

- Martin Luther King Sunday
- Souper Sunday (last Sunday)



February

- Game Night
- Souper Sunday (last Sunday)



March

- Maple Syrup Communion
- UUSB Variety Show
- Souper Sunday (last Sunday)

April

- Easter Sunday
- Spring Cleanup
- New to UU Class
- New Member Sunday
- Spring Auction

May

- Mother's Day
- Coming of Age Service
- SEE Celebration Sunday
- UUSB Annual Meeting

June

- Father's Day
- Flower Communion



July

- Charlie Howard Memorial Sunday



August

- UUSB Day at the Lake



September

- Water Communion
- SEE Year Begins
- Book Sale

October

- Great Pumpkin Yard Sale
- Fall Cleanup
- Halloween Hullabaloo (SEE)

November

- New to UU Class
- New Member Sunday



December

- Gift Basket Auction
- Wreath Decorating & Sale
- Winter Solstice Service
- Christmas Eve Service

Other Events:

- Spirit of Drumming: 2nd & 4th Sundays
- Justice Now: 3rd Sunday

Check the UUSB Calendar for more: www.uubangor.org.

MEET OUR COMMUNITY

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor (UUSB) is a congregation that attracts people of many beliefs, cultures, and traditions. Meet some members of our community and read why they call UUSB their spiritual home.

MIKE

I value the seven principles and cherish being able to learn from so many different sources, both traditional sources and wisdom from the current time. For me, this community provides a balance.



RISSA & LINDA

We cherish our involvement in UUSB, where we honor the sacred in every person. We love cultivating unity in the world with this beloved community, which has become our extended family.



HANNAH

It only took a handful of weeks to decide that UUSB felt like a true spiritual home! If you're interested in a community based in democratic principles, interdependence, honoring our inherent spiritual bond with the natural world, and nurturing our search for truth, meaning, and healing, check us out. We will welcome you with an earnest warmth that I hope touches you the way it did me.



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST PRINCIPLES

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
2. Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.
5. The free and responsible search for truth and meaning.
6. The right of conscience and the use of democratic process within our congregations and in the society at large.
7. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.
8. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.



Unitarian
Universalist
Society of Bangor



Unitarian
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CONTACT US



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120 Park Street, Bangor, ME



www.uubangor.org

Welcome to our community!

ABOUT US

The Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor (UUSB) has been a progressive religious voice in Bangor since the 1830s. Our religious heritage is derived from the Unitarian and Universalist traditions, which have strong histories of commitment to justice and compassion. As a faith community, we are focused on spiritual growth and service. We are a welcoming congregation, supporting the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00-11:00 AM, YEAR ROUND

Most services are led by the minister and a lay worship associate. Everyone is invited to Fellowship Hour after the service. For a listing of upcoming sermons, please visit our website, www.uubangor.org.

MEET OUR STAFF

Rev. Andrew Moeller,
Minister

Camden Ador, Director of
Spiritual Exploration
Christine Sprague,
Church Administrator
Sojourner Crowley,
Music Director



Rev. Andrew Moeller

SPIRITUAL EXPLORATION & CHILDCARE



Childcare is provided during most worship services and UUSB activities. A safe Nursery & PreK classroom, staffed by volunteers, is available for children up to age four.

Spiritual Exploration (SE) classes are held during Sunday services for infants through age 18 from mid-September through May.

Our volunteer SE teachers nurture development through appropriate lesson plans chosen by the SE director and the Spiritual Exploration Action League. We encourage families to take part in the many educational and fun activities offered throughout the year.

For more information on SE or childcare services, visit our website or contact our SE director at uubangorre@gmail.com.

OTHER ACTIVITIES & OFFERINGS

You can find additional information and events on our website.

Social Justice

Dedicated to justice and equity, we engage in activities involving bus transportation, food security, equal rights, climate change, healthcare, and other democratic issues with faith organizations, and local and statewide groups.

Groups and Adult Education

Centered around fellowship, service, and discussion, our groups and adult education include Spirit of Drumming, Buddhist Meditation, Spiritual Exploration Action League, Shawl Ministry, and Unitarian Universalist theology.

Choir

Led by our music director, all are welcome to join regardless of skill level.

Community Outreach

- Second Sunday Food Collection
- Monthly Community Bean Suppers on the 4th and 5th Saturdays



For more on UUSB, visit us online! www.uubangor.org