

# Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
Wednesday, April 2, 2025

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[www.augustauu.org](http://www.augustauu.org)

[Zoom Room](#)

## A Message from our Minister

*I don't think anyone "finds" joy. Rather, we cultivate it by searching for the preciousness of small things, the ordinary miracles that strengthen our hearts so we can keep them open to what is difficult.*

~ Dawna Markova

\*\*\*\*\*

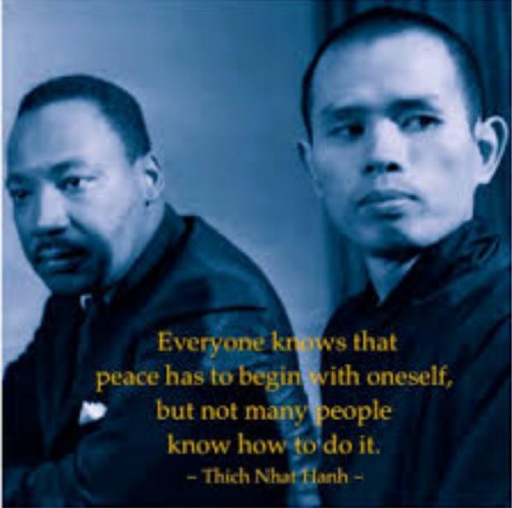
UUCC's April Theme is Joy!

Where will you cultivate and find joy in our church community and in the greater community? Cultivating joy is a spiritual practice inviting us to notice the beauty of life and to notice what we are drawn to.

This month, as we build community together, may we find the space and companions that sustain us, offering joy as one more option in life? Take good care of yourselves and each other.

Love and Light,  
Rev. Donna, she, her

## Upcoming Services

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday April 6, 2025</p> <p>Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Caring for Strong Emotions Peaceful Heart Sangha*</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Nan Bell will be our worship associate. Angie Blevins will run the slides she has developed as well as serve as our Boxcast tech.</p> <p>Music may be a mix of piano music by Karen Foust and some recorded music. Robin Newhall will lead the team that is hosting coffee hour. Our ushers will be Catherine Palmer (in-person) and Marty Peters (Box-cast). Our greeter will be Karen Allen.</p> <p>*A community that practices Mindfulness Meditation in the Plum Village Tradition. This is the tradition created by Zen Master, poet, and social activist, Thich Nhat Hanh, who was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by his friend, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday March 30, 2025</p> <p>Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>New Member Sunday</b> Reverend Donna Dolham</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Susan O’Keefe will be our worship associate. Lindsey Weihl will run slides created by Hanna Brown. Lindsey Weihl will also manage Boxcast technology.</p> <p>The UUCS Choir, led by Bridget Convey and accompanied by Morgan Lee on piano will join with our UUCS Orchestra, led by Conductor Michael Atkinson, to present <u>Enigma Variations</u> by Elgar, arranged by Michael Atkinson. The Choir will also present our prelude “Sing a Song Today”.</p> <p>Our in-person usher will be Annie Blanchard and our greeter will be Nancy Fritz.</p> <p>*** We will also hold space in this service for you to share your <b>Joys and Sorrows</b> with our community. ***</p>

**Sunday worship service is held IN-PERSON in the Sanctuary.**

Please be aware that the doors will be locked 10 minutes after the service begins. The greeter will be at the front door to let anyone in after that time.

As a community committed to “going green”, we do not hand out paper orders of service. If you would like to print one at home or bring it up on your phone during the service, don’t hesitate to go to our online order of service.

The order of service is updated on Fridays. [Here is the OOS link](#)

***If you want to watch the livestream of the service, please visit:***  
<https://boxcast.tv/channel/mtifpth0utvesjqgiyej>

If you missed the service or want to watch the service again, the link above also allows access to the prior service. A service may be viewed on Boxcast for a week after the service is live.

### Accessibility Reminders

- Please leave the empty spots in the first two rows of the sanctuary seating for our folks using wheelchairs.
- Due to fragrance allergies, we are asking people not to wear perfumes or natural scents when attending services and programming at UCC.
- If you require one of our hearing assistance devices to access services, please ask the greeter for assistance.
- Please let us know how we can help you engage with our community!

## Special Events / Notices / News

**PRISCILLA ASHTON UPDATE:** Priscilla Ashton’s memorial service will be held at the UCC on April 13, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. FMI: Helen Z.



### EXCHANGE STUDENT needs short-term housing

Jennifer Dumond from Greenheart Exchange is seeking SHORT TERM placement for a young exchange student named Diana from Kazakhstan. Diana unexpectedly lost her host home and is in need of someone to open their heart and home to her from April 12 through June 11. She currently attends Hall-Dale High school, but that may be able to switch to another school if someone in the Hallowell/Farmingdale area cannot be found.

This is what Jennifer shared about Diana: Diana loves art and is currently in the school choir. She is very quiet and polite. She is definitely more of an introvert, but she adored her former host mother who is quite the extrovert. Diana is Muslim, so she prefers to not eat pork products. Other than that, she is not picky at all. She is an amazing young lady who really just needs a soft place to land for a few weeks.

**\*\*Please contact Jennifer Dumond directly if you can help.  
Thank you so much!! \*\***

*Jennifer Dumond*  
Greenheart Exchange  
Local Coordinator  
207-462-4643 Cell

To our beloved community

From Michaela Loisel, Board President

Do you wonder why we regularly mention our covenant here at UUCC?

Part of being human means occasionally finding ourselves in conflict. That is because where people are in relationship with others - in families, workplaces, civic groups, and yes, in churches people will have differing needs. Conflict is not necessarily a bad thing- what matters is how we work through it. For me, this presented our community with a crucial opportunity to figure out how we want to be together, how we get through the bumps in the road, and what boundaries we will practice.

If you are new(ish) to UUCC you may not know that 3-4 years ago, our Congregation experienced an internal struggle that was impactful on many people causing some to leave the church altogether. I don't think it important to talk about what caused this rift- it was a conflict - some people took sides.

To work through this, our community consulted with the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) for guidance and engaged a UU Minister/Consultant to hold some listening circles, conduct training sessions on healing through conflict, and creating the path forward. The congregation began a participatory process of creating a covenant that would define the promises we make to one another to strengthen our community.

We have been exploring the meaning of each promise throughout this past year in many ways. We now are providing an opportunity to practice using our covenant so that we can more fully live into it. With that in mind, we are providing a skill building workshop and want you all to have these details so you can save the date.

Hope to see many of you there.  
With love to all,

Michaela

**SAVE THE DATE: "HOW TO SAY HARD THINGS" WORKSHOP**

Saturday, May 10th -- 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

We have hired Claire Karl Mueller of UUA Mass Action for this special half-day training about how to speak up when things go awry – both how to speak up without breaking our Covenant and also how to handle situations when the Covenant is broken by others. PRE-REGISTRATION is required. Watch for additional information.

To register for this workshop: [Click here](#)

LUNCH will be included.

Offered by the Covenant Engagement Team

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## Sewing & Crafting Retreat

April 29th, 9am - until evening

April 30th, 9am - 4pm

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

Pre-registration required



limited to 12 participants each day  
please see Nancy Fritz for more information

69 Winthrop Street, Augusta, Maine

Sponsored by: Sewing/Craft Group at UU Church

Hours: Tuesday, April 29, 9 a.m. until evening  
Wednesday, April 30, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

*Registration will be limited to 12 participants each day and is on a first come, first served basis.*

*You will be considered registered when you complete a registration form along with payment of \$25 for both days or \$15 for one day. Please contact Nancy Fritz for the registration form. [Contact Sewing Group](#)*

### ***Stewardship News! --- We're CLOSE to our goal... but we need YOU!!***

UPDATE: As of this date, we have received **58 pledges** (31 increased pledges and 11 new pledges) for a total of **\$171,460**. Thank you all for your continued commitment to this church! Your support of the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta is greatly appreciated.

**\*\* We are at 87% of our goal of \$198,000. \*\***

If you haven't submitted your pledge yet, please consider doing so **now** (yes, RIGHT NOW!) using the Online Pledge Form - click [HERE](#)? It's super EASY!! Give it a try!! The finance committee is meeting on Thursday to continue the planning for our next fiscal year (based upon the funds we can plan on). Every pledge is important!

If you have questions, please: [Contact Stewardship](#).

Your stewardship co-chairs,  
Betty and Terry Cairn

Want to learn more about our budget, review the informational video about the proposed budget for more details on our budget & process. Click this link: [FY25-26 Budget Talk](#).

**SOME UPCOMING FUNdraising EVENTS and OPPORTUNITIES**  
**YOU WONT WANT TO MISS**

**UUCC Auction** – Come one, come all to the UUCC Auction to be held in the sanctuary **this Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00**. Doors will open at 5:15 so that you can get a preview of the items that have been donated.

Check out our offerings here: [Auction catalog](#).

If you have donated an item, please bring it to the church between 2:30 and 3:30 on Saturday so that we can get it set up and displayed.

**UUCC Plant Sale** –Back by popular demand!

Dale McCormick’s Tomato Babies and Plant Sale.

Order in advance to get the tomato, vegetable and herb seedlings that you want! Directions for ordering are in our full-color catalog, which you can find here: [Plant Sale Catalog](#).

**The last date for ordering will be May 13<sup>th</sup>** and pick up will be on May 20<sup>th</sup> at noon and the 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30. Leftover plants from the catalog and additional offerings will be sold at a plant sale to be held on May 24<sup>th</sup> at the UUCC.

**UUCC Concert and Raffle** – The UUCC Spring Choir and Orchestra Concert will be held at 7:00 pm on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>. Featuring the best selections from this church year and a few new selections -- come support the talented musicians who participate in the UUCC choir and orchestra. Suggested donation for the concert is \$10.

Half of the proceeds will be donated to the Kennebec Land Trust (KLT) which is the steward for many tracts of land in central Maine. We will also be raffling a 2 night stay at Cabin 2 on the KLT property (Wakefield Cabins) on the Cobbossee Stream in West Gardiner. This Cabin was refurbished by the Cabin Masters and features a screened in porch that spans the length of the cabin and sits directly over the water. Peaceful and lovely! Come enjoy our very own UUCC Choir and Orchestra and join in the fun with the raffle. Tickets for the raffle will be \$5 each or 6 for \$25.

**\*\* Upcoming events to add to your calendar!\*\***

**Game Day**

**NEXT Game Day is -- Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>  
Join us for some afternoon fun!**

**Neighborhood BBQ**

**When:** Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Where:** Right Here at UCC

Global Hospitality is sponsoring this wonderful opportunity for UCC, reaching in and reaching out to our local neighbors. We hope you'll save Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>! The event itself will be held from noon to 2:30p.

This event will be an opportunity for fun and relationship building! Global Hospitality at its heart. If you are available to help, please let us know by filling in our volunteer form for this event. Susan O'Keefe will be following up with folks as time gets closer. [BBQ Volunteer Form Link](#).

**Announcements / Requests from  
Buildings and Grounds Committee**

**Saturday April 5th, 9-11 is the annual spring grounds clean up!**

Please help rake the church properties and spiff up the place for spring. We will rake onto tarps and dump into compost. No bagging required. Please bring gloves and rakes if you have them. Rain date is April 12th. We will have a flower planting session in May. Please let Marilyn Dunn know you plan to help so she won't fret!

**Could you help the lawn crew once a month?**

Would you be willing to mow the church property once a month with the church lawn mower? We put together a crew of 4 annually that rotate weekly. The mower is easy start and self-propelled. It typically takes an hour to mow. If church members would take this on it would free up building and grounds team to concentrate on carpentry projects. Contact Marilyn Dunn via email [Lawn Crew](#).

**The Covenant Engagement Team (CET)**

Our April Covenant Promise is: "Because we value our relationships with our greater community, we promise to: Model our UU Principles and Covenant in our relationships with the greater community."

One example of bringing our values, principles, and covenant into the larger community is evidenced by our Saturday Breakfast volunteers. In the best UU tradition, shortly after this effort was up and running, volunteers from the Social Justice Committee came up with a covenant governing them at the Saturday Breakfast. You can find a [link to this covenant here](#). And currently the guests at the Saturday Breakfast are developing their own covenant.

**QUESTION TO PONDER THIS MONTH:** In what ways have you brought our UU Principles, Values, and practice of covenant into the larger community?

## From the Planned Giving and Legacy Subcommittee

There are many ways to create a legacy at the UUCC, including: one, the time we each take to make the UUCC a welcoming, thriving community; two, by donating an object that will be used by the church; and three, by remembering the church in your will.

As it turns out, April seems to be a very busy month in terms of all three. Here's some examples.

- In April of 1935, members of the Universalist Church donated over 80 cups and saucers in memory of two children, Everett and Raymond Winship, who drowned in Cobboseecontee Lake.
- On any given Sunday in April from the 1940 's to the 1970's, one could find Bob Purington donating his time and skills as the organist of All Souls Unitarian Church, and Louise Korol running the Community Exchange thrift shop.
- In April of 2007, Bob Rand and Jim McKendry made the free-standing support for our Wayside Pulpit. Some of the wood in the original frame purportedly came from pews at the "blue church."
- And, in the last 30 years, the following bequests were all received in April: 1992 Virginia Hall; 2000 Frances Pentlarge; 2009 William Goldberg; and 2018 Karl Dan Sorenson.

\*\*\*\* What will be your legacy at the UUCC? \*\*\*\*

**Are you interested in offering programming or scheduling an event for the UUCC community?**

Please use this [program request online form](#) to help guide the process.

## Connections by Day of the Week

ALL church events and meetings are reflected on the UUCC calendar  
Click below to view ALL events, including any group meetings or other business meetings.



<https://www.augustauu.org/events-calendar>


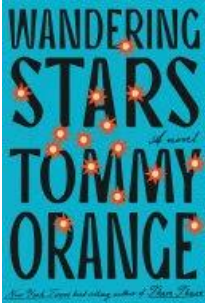
[Click here to join Events in the Zoom Room](#)

For other ways to join Zoom, see [General Information](#)

**Zoom meeting id: 823 807 0673 – Password: 6971**



<p><b><u>Monday</u></b>  Each week  <b><u>6:30 – 8:00</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u>  See details</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p>We meet <u>EVERY Monday online</u>. You may join us at 6:15 to settle in. The group also meets <u>in-person</u> in the Sanctuary (not hybrid), <u>ONLY on the first Monday</u> of each month.</p> <p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated Zoom login information at:  email: <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>.  FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a>  <i>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</i></p> 
<p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b><u>Monday</u></b>  <b><u>9:30 – Noon</u></b>  Next Meeting is Apr. 14<sup>th</sup></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Sewing/Craft/Hobby Group</u></b></p> <p>Sewing/Craft/Hobby Group meets in the Fellowship Hall the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon. We ask that attendees help set up and put away tables and chairs.</p> <p>Just bring whatever you'd like to work on, machine or hand sewing, craft or hobby item you are working on, and we will all help one another as needed. Be sure to let us know if there is anything you need from one of us...we are likely to have whatever it is!</p> <p>Questions: Contact Martha or Nancy at <a href="#">Contact Sewing/Craft Group</a> All are welcome. Bring a friend, if you like.</p>
<p><b><u>Tuesday</u></b>  <b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>    <b><u>UCC</u></b>  <b><u>Virtual</u></b>  <b><u>Zoom</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Lectio Divina</u></b></p> <p>A weekly Lectio Divina program will be offered weekly on Tuesday beginning on September 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 to 11:30. Lectio Divina can be translated as divine reading. We will share a chalice lighting, centering meditation, sharing and reflection time based with a variety of sources.</p> <p>This program will be facilitated by Rev. Donna Dolham and Lori Milner and is open to the wider community. Join as you're able, you do not need to attend every week, although you are welcome to!</p>
<p><b><u>Wednes-</u></b>  <b><u>day</u></b>  <b><u>6:00 -</u></b>  <b><u>7:30 p.m.</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>UCC Choir Rehearsal</u></b></p> <p>Our weekly choir rehearsal takes place from 6pm to 7:30pm in the sanctuary. We look forward to welcoming new members! Inquiries to Bridget Convey at <a href="#">Contact Music Director</a>.</p>
<p><b><u>Wednes-</u></b>  <b><u>days</u></b>  Each Week  <b><u>5:00 – 6:00</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Gentle YOGA</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hosted by Debbie Mattson</p> <p>UU Yoga is offered as a hybrid gathering. People can choose to gather in the Fellowship Hall for yoga, Wednesdays 5 PM-6 PM or join via zoom. Here is the zoom link:</p> <p><a href="https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGbzNlZWpZOT-RXa3VoUT09">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGbzNlZWpZOT-RXa3VoUT09</a> ----- Password: 174192</p> 

	<p>Please join us a few minutes before 5:00 to settle in so we can begin class right at 5 p.m.  FMI: <a href="#">Contact Yoga Class</a></p>
<p><b><u>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b><u>Wednesday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>1:00-2:30pm</u></b></p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  Fellowship Hall</p> <p><b>Next Meeting  is Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Seasoned Souls</u></b></p> <p><b>BEGINNING February 26, Seasoned Souls began meeting <u>IN-PERSON only</u> in the Fellowship Hall. Join us!!</b></p> <p>Seasoned Souls is a group of participants in the UCC community who are over 65 years of age and meet as a study/support group to talk openly about topics related to the aging process. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. in-person in the Fellowship Hall ONLY.</p> <p>FMI: For more information please contact Hal Booth at <a href="#">Contact Seasoned Souls</a>.</p>
<p><b><u>Thursdays</u></b>  <b><u>Each Week</u></b></p> <p><b><u>8:00 – 9:30</u></b>  <b><u>a.m.</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p>You may join us at 7:45 a.m. to settle in. Meet from 8-9:30  -- <b>IN-PERSON every Thursday at the River Studio, 332 Water St. Hallowell</b>  (except the last Thursday of the month)  --<b>BY Private ZOOM</b> – last Thursday of the month</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>. FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a>  <i>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</i></p>
<p><b><u>1<sup>st</sup></u></b>  <b><u>Thursday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Noon-1:30</u></b>  <b><u>p.m.</u></b></p> <p><b>Next Meeting is  May 1st</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Read Learn Share Book Group</u></b></p> <p>Our UU book group has never stated an intention to read authors who are not part of mainstream culture in the United States. And we have consistently done just that. Some of our authors are not white, some not straight, some men, some women, some trans, from the US, some not. What they have in common is that they stretch our minds, imaginations and world views. And, participants in our group get to know one another better and get an even wider perspective on these books. Our discussions are lively and thought provoking, not contentious.</p> <p>We meet on the first Thursday of the month from noon until 1:30, both in the church Zoom Room and in Fellowship Hall. We are an open group so you can look at the list for the year, which is printed in the Flaming Chalice newsletter, and choose to attend whichever month(s) interest you.</p> <p>You are invited to join us on Thursday May 1 at noon to discuss <u>Wandering Stars</u> by Tommy Orange and we will end at 1:30.</p> <p> <i>Tommy Orange traces the legacies of the Sand Creek Massacre of 1864 and the Carlisle Indian Industrial School through three generations of a family</i>  ~Goodreads</p> <p>In June we will be exploring <u>MOON IN FULL</u> by Marpheen Chann</p>

	For more information about the group, reach out to June Zellers or Kathy Kellison at <a href="#">Contact Bookgroup Leaders</a>
<b><u>Fridays</u></b> <b><u>Each Week</u></b> <b><u>6:00 – 7:00</u></b> <b><u>p.m.</u></b>	<b><u><i>Fabulous Friday AA Meeting</i></u></b> Join us for this Alcoholics Anonymous meeting from 6-7pm in the church at 69 Winthrop St. Please enter through the Summer Street door and join us in the room straight ahead and through the double doors.
<b><u>4<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b><u>Friday</u></b>  <b><u>6:30 – 8:30</u></b> <b><u>Sanctuary</u></b>  <b><u>LAST</u></b> <b><u>Meeting is</u></b> <b><u>Apr. 25th</u></b>	<b><u><i>Free Style Drum Circle</i></u></b> <b>The Drum Circle will be holding its LAST session at our church on April 25<sup>th</sup>. The leader is retiring and moving away from the area! Join them if you can!</b>  The Augusta Community Drum Circle is a free style drum circle welcoming people of all ages, walks of life, and abilities. Free style means no one is assigned ‘pieces’ to play. Just play! Or don’t play! Just come watch, sing, dance, or bring your own instruments. No one cares if you’ve never played before or if you make a mistake. As long as you are having fun you can’t get it wrong! <u>ALL are welcome.</u> Event is FREE, No RSVP, just come!  The Drum Circle meets the fourth Friday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. For more information you can contact Mike Moody at <a href="mailto:mtmoods@gmail.com">mtmoods@gmail.com</a> or 229-1118
<b><u>Every</u></b> <b><u>Saturday</u></b>  9:00–11 am in the Sanctuary	<b><u><i>UCC Occasional Orchestra</i></u></b>  Rehearsals are held Saturdays in the Sanctuary from 9:00-11:00 a.m.  Come and share your musical talents with our UCC community. All are welcome, please join us! Questions: please contact our UCCOO Orchestra Director, Michael P. Atkinson at: <a href="#">Contact UCCOO Director</a>
<b><u>Sundays</u></b> <b><u>Each Week</u></b>  <b><u>5:00-6:00pm</u></b> <b><u>Fellowship</u></b> <b><u>Hall, Zoom</u></b>	<b><u><i>Serenity Sunday Al-Anon</i></u></b> Every Sunday, In person, use door on Summer St.  Or ZOOM: Meeting ID #846 4156 7190 Passcode: #04330 Use Zoom only during inclement weather.
<b><u>3<sup>rd</sup></u></b> <b><u>Sunday</u></b> <b><u>11am-</u></b> <b><u>12:30 p.m.</u></b>  <b><u>Next</u></b> <b><u>Apr. 20th</u></b>	<b><u><i>FELLOWSHIP LUNCH</i></u></b> 3rd Sunday (October – June) 11:30-12:30pm, Fellowship Hall  Enjoy community at a restaurant style sit-down meal – no need to register – just join us in Fellowship Hall after the service. We generally have a "base" kitchen crew but need a few extra volunteers to help set up and serve. To sign up to help set up or serve, please email Marilyn Dunn at <a href="#">Contact Fellowship Lunch</a> .

<p><b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b></p> <p><b>Fellowship Hour</b></p> <p><b>Next Apr. 27<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>FREE BOOK CENTER</u></b></p> <p>Located in the Library Bookcase. Available when the Committee Room is available.</p> <p>Also see the FREE BOOK DISPLAY during Fellowship Hour on the fourth Sunday. Variety of topics. Service Project of Small Group Ministry</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contact: Mary Shifman at <a href="#">FREE BOOKS</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next FREE BOOK DISPLAY April 27 during Fellowship Hour</p>
<p><b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b></p> <p><b>1-2:30 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>Next Meeting is Apr. 27<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Goddess / Earth Circles</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">GODDESS/Earth Circles</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Goddess/Earth Circles: 1:00-2:30pm - In person in FH and UUC Zoom</p> <p style="text-align: center;">April 27 1:00-2:30 UU Women: Liberating UU Women's History and Heritage, Feminist Collection in the Library, and Contributions of women.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Goddess/Earth Circle participants will receive background overview, or Contact Goddess/EC Helen Zidowecki FMI.</p> <p>Goddess/Earth Circles focuses on the phases of our lives and earth-based spirituality. All ages and genders are welcome. FMI Contact Helen Zidowecki at <a href="#">Contact Goddess/EC</a>.</p>

**Social Justice Updates**

**MUUSAN**  
**Maine Unitarian Universalist  
State Advocacy Network**

(Visit its website at [www.muusan.org](http://www.muusan.org))

**Act Locally-** we can make a difference!

The Maine Legislature is plowing through hundreds of bills - many of which are in line with our UU Values.

Below are a couple of examples of how MUUSAN presents information to us so that we know what we can do to contact our legislators, write letters of testimony or testify in person. For questions about MUUSAN and how you can get involved, contact Michaela Loisel at [MUUSAN Liaison](#).

**Democracy**

LD 1149 [An Act to Require an Individual to Present Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting](#)

Summary: In November 2025, a right wing package of anti-voter laws will be on the Maine ballot including a strict voter ID law and major restrictions on absentee balloting.

A coalition of Maine-based organizations, including Maine Votes, Maine Voices Network, the League of Women Voters of Maine, Maine People's Alliance, and Maine Conservation Voters, has launched the Save Maine Absentee Voting campaign to stop this referendum.

**Hearing: This is a citizen's initiative. No hearing scheduled yet.**

Call to Action:

- Talk to people, be an ambassador for the campaign.
- Maine's Secretary of State has issued draft ballot language and is seeking public comment on the language that will appear on the ballot, to be sure it's inclusive of all elements. This is not the opportunity to weigh in pros and cons. In your comments please thank the office for ensuring the many aspects of this bill are outlined in accessible language for voters. Send them [here](#).
- If you would like to have a campaign representative speak to your congregation about this harmful bill, please contact Beth Allen, [beth@mainevotes.net](mailto:beth@mainevotes.net)

## **LGBTQIA++**

Annie Kiermaier, MUUSAN Liaison for the LGBTQIA++ Action Group will be leading the **Responding to the Anti-Trans Movement** class in two sessions on Thursday and Friday, April 17 and 18 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at the First Universalist Church in Rockland, 345 Broadway. It will be offered in person at the church and also by Zoom. The class will deepen our understanding of: 1) gender diversity and trans identity, 2) the current political attack on trans people and the misinformation that is part of that attack, and 3) teach us how to create safety and belonging for trans people in our UU congregation.

UUs can participate in this relevant and helpful class in three ways:

- Attend at the First Universalist Church on April 17 and 18. Register with Annie Kiermaier, [anniemuusan@gmail.com](mailto:anniemuusan@gmail.com).
- Attend by Zoom on April 17 and 18. Register with Annie Kiermaier, [anniemuusan@gmail.com](mailto:anniemuusan@gmail.com). You can attend as an individual, or you might consider organizing a watch party with other members of your UU congregation and follow with your own discussion.
- Access **Responding to the Anti-Trans Movement** yourself [here](#). You can watch and learn by yourself or with others in your congregation.

**[Click here to read about these and other action points from MUUSAN.](#)** You will also find an online tool to help easily track bills of interest and their progress.

# Board of Trustees

## **BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

At the March 13 meeting the Board:

- Considered the possibility of designating a 2<sup>nd</sup> parking place for people with disabilities on Summer St.
- Discussed improving access at the Summer St door for people with disabilities.
- Discussed using the doorbell for access on Sunday morning when the doors are locked.
- Discussed setting up a table in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour to answer newcomer's questions.
- Will consider vertical blinds for the sanctuary window.
- Appointed Helen Zidowecki to serve as our one delegate to General Assembly

Complete minutes will be posted on the UUCC website and on the Board of Trustees bulletin board in the church vestibule when they are available.

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The next board meeting is Thursday, April 10, 2024.

All are welcome to attend but please see the [UUCC Policy for Board Meeting Visitors](#).  
If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider,  
please contact [Board President](#).

## **General Information**

**Worship Services are held IN-PERSON**  
**Events may still be held virtually in the**  
***UUCC ZOOM ROOM***

### **Other ways to UUCC Zoom Room Zoom:**

1. **Join from your internet browser by clicking this link or typing this into your browser:**  
<https://zoom.us/j/8238070673>, launch Zoom, then enter **passcode: 6971**
2. **Select "Join Meeting" from the Zoom application on your computer or mobile device.**

UUCC Meeting ID: 823 807 0673 – then enter **passcode: 6971**

3. **Join by phone:** dial 1 646 558 8656 (**NOTE:** toll charge may apply)

At first prompt (meeting id: 823 807 0673#)

At second prompt: press # (no personal id needed) <No passcode needed when joining by phone>

NOTE---\*6 is mute AND un-mute on your phone. The host cannot mute or un-mute people who phone-in.

**HOSTS:** Once in your meeting, claim the host using the **HOST KEY** as you have done in the past.

## UCC Pastoral Ministry Team

We are here for you. Feel free to reach out in times of need for compassionate listening, for casual conversation, to share some good news, to share your struggle or just to say hello.

**Caring Cooperative** support includes rides, meals, errands, get well and condolence cards as well as companion visits. If you would like to request or suggest meal support or cards, contact us too.

**Reach out to:** [Contact Pastoral Ministry Team](#)

Martha Pelletier, Chair

Helen Zidowecki

Peggy Lamb

Lori Milner

## UCC Small Group Ministry



Looking for greater human and spiritual connection during this most disconnected of times? Small Group Ministry offers this vital need in our spiritual community, and so much more! For more information, contact Linda Findlay and Helen Zidowecki [Contact SGM Leaders](#)

## UCC Office Hours & Notes

### UPDATED E-blast & Office Hours

**E-blasts will be produced on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. The upcoming schedule is:**

- E-Blast (4/2)
- NO E-Blast (4/9)
- E-Blast (4/16)
- NO E-blast (4/23)

**EBLAST SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Articles due by noon on Tuesday, the day before the E-blast is distributed. Articles received after this time may not be included in the E-blast. Send articles to [admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org)

### UCC Office Hours NEXT WEEK

The church admin will be taking time off next week – there will be no office hours.

Regular open office hours for walk-in service by the administrator will resume the following week:

Tues or Thurs – 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

---- Or by appointment ---- [Contact Admin](#)

### Rev. Donna Dolham

Minister's study – (207) 623-3663

Pastoral Emergencies only - use cell phone

Email: [Contact Minister](#)

Visit [Calendly Scheduling Link](#) to schedule an appointment with Rev. Dolham.

Mondays will be Rev. Donna's Sabbath. If you are having a pastoral care emergency, please call her cell phone and leave a message at: 207 701-1581.

Fridays will be a writing day and Rev. Donna will not regularly be checking emails or returning non urgent calls.

### Staff Contact information:

**Church Administrator**, Lynn M. Smith, [Contact Admin](#), Phone (207)622-3232

**Music Director**, Bridget Convey, [Contact Music Director](#)