

Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church
of Brunswick

August 2012

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ALL SERVICES AT 10:00 AT THE MINNIE BROWN CENTER

*Our Mission is
To be a spiritual community
To welcome all
To nurture one another
To work for justice
And to care for the earth.*

The Unitarian Universalist
Church of Brunswick

Rev. Sylvia Stocker, Minister

Rev. J. Bradbury Mitchell,
Minister Emeritus

Nicole Shanks,
Director of Religious Education

Stephanie Bernier,
Music Coordinator

Heidi Neufeld, Choir Director

Shirley Bernier, Office Administrator

Tony Sulkoski, Sexton

August 5 - *"Diving Deep: Stories from a Maine Childhood"*

To celebrate joining the Medicare Generation, **Pat Harris** has been writing stories about growing up in Castine, Maine. By sharing her reminiscences, Pat hopes to shed some light on the value of family, the power of place, and the significance of tradition on our creative and spiritual journeys. Music provided by Larry Lemmel.

August 12 - *"Another Kind of Music"*

Certain sounds provided backdrops for our lives -- some are constant through the years; others evolve and change over time. **Ann Spencer** reminisces about sounds that were and remain important for her spirit. Music provided by Brad Mitchell and others.

August 19 - *"Eid al Fitr"*

Rev. Stocker preaching. As Ramadan comes to an end, we contemplate some of the deeper truths of Islam, a religious tradition much maligned in our times. Music provided by Ann Hartzler (piano) and Kate Gray (violin).

August, 26 - *"Don't Just Do Something"*

Rev. Stocker preaching. Music provided by Larry Lemmel (piano) and Hugh Maynard (oboe).

September 2 - NO CHURCH. Happy Labor Day!

HOW TO REACH US

**The Unitarian Universalist Church
of Brunswick**
PO Box 129, Brunswick ME 04011

The church office, (at 7 Middle Street) is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10-4 and on Wednesday from 12-4. The office administrator is Shirley Bernier.

The Director of Religious Education, Nicole Shanks, is on vacation for the summer. In the fall, she will be in her new office (place TBD), Wednesday & Thursday from 9am - 1 pm and by appointment. Contact her by telephone at the church office: 729-8515.

The Minister, Rev. Sylvia Stocker, has office hours Tues and Thurs 1-4 pm and by appointment. In an emergency, do not hesitate to call her anywhere or any time. (Consult the church directory for her home number.) For routine church business, please call her at the church. Sylvia will be on vacation from August 1-17.

Monday is the Sabbath for the Minister, the DRE, and the office.

Telephone/Fax: 207 729-8515

E-mail: uubruns@gwi

Website: <http://www.uubrunswick.org>

The **UU Pagan Group** will NOT be meeting in August. Plans for the fall will be in the September newsletter.

Summer Hours at Church Office (July and August)

Tues – Thurs 10:00am-4:00pm
Friday 10:00am-2:00pm

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As the summer heat continues the warmth generated by our successful Capital Campaign, we've had a number of questions about when and how to make payments on pledges.

Your payments, of course, are welcome at any time in the next three years (ending June 30, 2015). Some of you indicated your plans when you filled out a pledge card; others simply left that section blank with the intention of paying as funds become available. A few members haven't made a pledge but hope to make a gift to the campaign when they are able. If timing isn't important to you, know that pledge payments during the construction period will lessen the amount of interest the church will pay on our construction loan - if this is a possibility for you, it will be appreciated. All methods and payments are welcome, regardless of date.

When you make a payment to the church, it is important that you identify what it's for: please write CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, ANNUAL BUDGET PLEDGE, MINISTER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND or other purpose on the memo line of your check. Checks can be dropped into the collection plate on Sunday or mailed to the church office. Our office administrator, Shirley Bernier, is the person who opens mail and sorts checks into the appropriate category. As Campaign Treasurer, I will enter your campaign pledge payment into our database and send you a quarterly report on the status of your pledge, as well as an annual statement for tax purposes.

If you would like to set up an automatic monthly electronic payment for any of these purposes, please be in touch with Shirley. It is also possible to set up one transfer each month to cover both Annual Budget and Capital Campaign pledges.

To discuss other ways of fulfilling your pledge, such as a gift of stock, or if you have questions, please don't hesitate to call or email Keary Lay, Campaign Treasurer, at 389-4283 or keary.lay@gmail.com

We are deeply grateful for your contribution. Thank you for furthering the dream and for your generosity.

Keary Lay, Treasurer
UUCB Capital Campaign



... MINISTER'S MUSINGS ...

No musings this month. Sylvia and Steve are on vacation.
Happy summer days, everyone!



Love,
 Sylvia

SUUPER CIRCLE SUUPERS!



Now that we have your attention,
 please do think about signing up for any
 of the remaining Circle Suppers.

By the August Parish Messenger
 publication date, two Circle Suppers
 will be a pleasant memory for the
 hosts and participants, and the July
 28th supper will be fully subscribed.

There is one seat remaining for the **Sunday Brunch on the 29th**, a few seats are open for the suppers on **August 4th and 11th**, and one seat is open for the fabulous Friday Circle Supper on Friday, **August 10th**. Do contact Debbie Zorach at dszorach@gwi.net or by phone at 729-8103. The suppers are a great way to stay connected with our church community even if you are finding your Sunday morning spirituality in other locations!

SAVE THE DATE!

HOMECOMING POT LUCK!

Stay Tuned!

Plans are underway for the annual Homecoming Pot Luck
 on **Saturday evening, September 8th**.

Mark your calendars now and stay tuned for
 more information coming in August.

IF

If you can keep your head when all about you
 Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
 If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
 But make allowance for their doubting too;

If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
 Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
 Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
 And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;
 If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;
 If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
 And treat these two impostors just the same;

If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
 Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
 Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
 And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
 And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
 And lose, and start again at your beginnings
 And never breathe a word about your loss;

If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
 To serve your turn long after they are gone,
 And so hold on when there is nothing in you
 Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
 Or walk with Kings - nor lose the common touch,
 If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
 If all men count with you, but none too much;

If you can fill the unforgiving minute
 With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
 Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
 And - which is more - you'll be a Man, my son!

By Rudyard Kipling

WELCOME HUGH AND FAITH WOODMAN

Faith met Hugh on a canoeing trip in northern Minnesota in 1978; they were married in 1980 with the agreement that when Hugh retired, they would live in Maine.

Hugh and Faith moved here from Minnesota last November, although they both have ties to Maine. Faith grew up in Saco and worked as a news reporter in Maine for many years. Hugh was involved in the Pejepscot Dam project and had college friends from Maine. Hugh and Faith have two daughters, an artist in San Francisco and a graduate student in NYC.

Hugh was a "Navy brat" and lived in many places growing up, including five years in Milwaukee, and five years in Phoenix before attending Carleton College in Minnesota. After college he graduated from Harvard Law School in 1975 and practiced commercial real estate law in Minneapolis until he retired in 2011.

Faith is interested in politics, the environment, history, literature, painting in watercolor and jewelry making, as well as cooking. In 1976-79, she



was a reporter for the *Times Record*, and before that she was a reporter for the *York County Coast Star*.

They joined Unity Church Unitarian in St. Paul in the early 1980's and transferred to First Universalist Church of Minneapolis a few years later. Faith was very active in First Universalist, serving most recently on the Board of Trustees and on the Board of the Association of Universalist Women, an activist group of which she was proud to be a member. She was also a VISTA volunteer in Vermont after college. She continues her work for justice through our social justice group. She jumped right in as a new member by helping out with the recent immigration meeting at Curtis Library.

Hugh played the oboe from time to time at First Universalist Church. He enjoys music and is taking oboe lessons. He was a cross-country ski racer; and he and Faith are looking forward to cross-country skiing this winter. They both enjoy the beach and hiking the many wonderful hiking trails that Maine has to offer.

Hugh and Faith felt at home in our church the first time they came. They liked the friendliness, the informality and they think Sylvia is just great! One of the first events they attended was a Circle Supper, which also helped to make them feel at home.



CHALICE CIRCLES: CHANGING THE WORLD ONE SMALL GROUP AT A TIME

Looking for a wonderful way to connect with others in the congregation? This coming October, we will launch a new year of Chalice Circles, a program we have offered with great success for the last several years.

What are Chalice Circles? Known in various UU churches as “small group ministry,” “covenant groups,” or “chalice circles,” our Chalice Circles provide an adult religious education program that allows people to draw closer to one another, nourishing hearts and spirits. Convened by trained facilitators, Chalice Circles meet once a month over the course of a year to explore a curriculum designed specifically for UU seekers. Each circle stays together for a year, then disbands when new groups form.

Chalice Circles help us to live out our Mission Statement. Each meeting has a *spiritual* component. The groups *welcome all* who are interested; at the end of a year, the groups re-form to open the door for more newcomers to join them. Group members *nurture one another* during

the year by creating an environment where deep listening can occur. And groups provide service to both church and wider community to help us engage in our commitment to *work for justice* and *to care for the earth*.

Chalice Circles create intimacy by inviting participants to share their views and experiences about topics of universal human significance. Chalice Circles ponder Ultimacy by exposing participants to the great spiritual questions and providing a safe setting where participants can share and hear one another's thoughts and experiences. And Chalice circles help participants “walk the talk” of Unitarian Universalism through service projects to both church and community.

Chalice Circles are not debate societies, discussion groups, or study groups. Instead, Chalice Circles topics are designed so that participants can share their life experiences, wisdom, thoughts, and questions in the safety of a group whose primary mission is to listen, deeply. The point is not to convert other people

to your opinion or to impress others with your intelligence and knowledge, but to speak your particular truth so that others can know you, and to listen to others speak their truth so that you can know them. By practicing deep listening, Chalice Circle participants gain the rare experience of being truly heard.

The Chalice Circles program is not therapy, nor is it intended to solve each other's problems or give each other advice. The point is to meet the human need for connection and intimacy that is both a deep hunger in our society and essential to the ongoing life of our church.

To give Chalice Circles a try, you simply commit to attending four sessions before making your final decision. To join a group, please fill out the attached form, and return it to the church office ***no later than Tuesday, September 18.***

Please note: Our Chalice Circles from last year have now disbanded. If you were in a Chalice Circle last year and you want to continue, please sign up again.

Chalice Circles Signup Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I am available for gatherings at the following times. (Circle ALL that apply.)

Monday	morning	afternoon	evening
Tuesday	morning	afternoon	evening
Wednesday	morning	afternoon	evening
Thursday	morning	afternoon	evening
Friday	morning	afternoon	evening

Please return this form to the church office no later than **Tuesday September 18.**
 Questions? Call Sylvia Stocker at the church office, 729-8515.

COME TO THE FAIR!

Brunswick's 8th Annual Peace Fair will be held on the Brunswick Mall, Saturday, August 4 from 10am – 5pm. Learn about the efforts of local non-profit organizations to work for a more peaceful and just world. Enjoy the music and arts activities. Participate in a conversation with young people about their vision for a more sustainable world. Have your portrait drawn by Brunswick artist Charlotte Agell. Stay for a concert by local bands.

UUCB will have a table presenting our congregation's social justice focus on the prevention of prejudice and hate. If you would like to be one of the people "staffing" the UUCB table, please speak with Jane Danielson or Sue Kennedy from the *Working for Justice Steering Group*.

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!

BRUNSWICK'S 8TH ANNUAL

Peace Fair

Saturday, August 4, 2012
10 am until 5 pm on the Brunswick Mall

Information Tables • Arts Activities • Acoustic Music 10-3 • Concert 3-5

Family fun – playful and serious reflection on these three strands of Peacemaking:

Supporting Sustainable Initiatives

Giving energy and resources to projects that inspire our hopes for a cooperative and caring society.





Being Peaceful

Living our lives from a place of peace, in harmony with each other and our surrounding ecosystems.

Speaking Out Clearly

Voicing our concerns when we see injustice, imbalance of power and failure of leadership.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHARLOTTE AGELL



PeaceWorks of Greater Brunswick — www.peaceworksbrunswickme.org

AUGUST CHARITY WITH SOUL

THE CENTER FOR WISDOM'S WOMEN

August's Charity with Soul is The Center for Wisdom's Women located in Lewiston. "A sacred and safe place that supports and empowers women" says the front of their brochure. The Center functions as a collaborative of women with goals of becoming aware of their inner resources and pursuing life affirming relationships. These goals are met through activities, programs and support groups. To learn more go to their website at <http://www.wisdomswomen.org/>

Looking ahead for this fiscal year:

- September - Maine Veterans for Peace
- October - The Tedford Shelter
- November - Restorative Justice Project of the Midcoast
- December - Coastal Humane Society
- Jan. 2013 - Habitat for Humanity/7 Rivers
- February - Keep Maine Warm
- March - Sexual Assault Support Services
- April - Hate Crimes Response Project
- May - Oasis Health Network,
- June - Peace Action Maine



WORKING FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Equality Maine is gathering people who would be willing to work in teams supporting the marriage equality referendum in the upcoming election. Teams could work in phone banks, visit door-to-door, or other ways of getting the word out.

For More Information or to sign up, please call Dotty Hassfeld 729-4704



Side Door Coffee House

Friday, August 17
7-10 pm

Featured performer:
Jerry Blodgett

homegrown songs of Maine and beyond

Upcoming Schedule:

- September --- Jud Caswell
- October ----- Martin Swinger
- November --- Ted Demille and Company
- December --- Annual "Ghosts of Christmas Past" concert with Castlebay

CANTOR'S MESSAGE BY DANIEL LEEMAN

This is the text of an article the Cantor of the Beth Israel Congregation wrote recently:

The shipbuilding boom, before and during WWI, attracted many Jewish merchants to the Bath area. Yet, when our synagogue building was built in 1922, we were not an affluent congregation. Many of our founding members were recent immigrants. Needless to say, providing funds for the new synagogue was a tremendous challenge.

Thankfully, at the time of the construction of our building, relationships with local residents and merchants in the Bath community were so strong that the non-Jewish community made a significant donation to our fundraising campaign.

I often think about this fact, and I am amazed and delighted to remind myself about the importance of a legacy of friendship in the Bath community. Just a couple of weeks ago, as I entered the Minnie Brown Center, I found my office door covered with notes, cards, posters and hand-made paintings. At the top of the door was a large paper sign entitled: "*To the Hebrew School*" At first, I was a bit concerned that the entrance way to my office was blocked.

I quickly realized that this was a huge compilation of thank you notes from every student and teacher in the Unitarian Universalist religious school, who was using our building for the school year. My concern melted into delight, as I carefully disassembled the mini shrine-like offerings at my office door and began to read the messages.

To share a few messages with you, one note read as follows: "Thank you for sharing your building with us. It kept us warm, it kept us dry, it kept us together." Each note and message was lovelier than the last, as the students and teachers wished us a happy summer, and thanked us in a variety of artistic and thoughtful ways. There were notes from the pre-K, lower school, and upper school. As the ages advanced, the penmanship and spelling improved, but the sentiment was just as pure and beautiful. One interesting note from a teacher indicated hopes for our students to meet and share some of their learning experiences with one another.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, in one of his Jewish philosophical writings, wrote that the term "*brotherhood*" is something of a misnomer. He went on to explain that this term might be misunderstood as kindness to one's brother. This is not the true meaning of the idea, since one may automatically be inclined to act with kindness towards one's brother, or a fellow Jew, or a fellow member of one's own community. "True brotherhood" is expressed when one reaches beyond one's community, and acts with compassion and kindness to members of another community. Developing the capacity to reach out successfully with compassion to members or groups from a different religion, different culture, different race, or nations are how one may define "*true brotherhood*" according to Rabbi Heschel.

Just as our congregation was the grateful recipient of compassion 90 years ago, when we were struggling with a synagogue construction project, it is a great privilege to offer whatever assistance we can to the UU church group that lost its building to a fire. It was gratifying to receive a thoughtful demonstration of "true brotherhood" from the UU religious school, and it is my pleasure to share this experience with you, the members of the Beth Israel Congregation of Bath, Maine.

As we approach the July 4th celebration, and we reflect on the values and principles that were set in place at the time our nation was formed, let us remember the sacrifices made by our founders to offer us a national legacy based on religious pluralism and religious freedom. It attracted our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, many of whom came near the turn of the last century from many countries to come to be free and prosperous in America.

May this promise continue for future generations. May all the citizens of our great nation, whatever their origin, culture or religion, be privileged to continue to form future bonds of "*true brotherhood*" within our nation and around the world. Nelech, MeHayil, LeHayil, and may we go from '*strength to strength*' in the future.



FUNDRAISING

COMING TO YOU THIS FALL..... silent, online, and LIVE auction and a raffle for a lovely dollhouse.

The Fundraising Committee is planning another online auction, in conjunction with our traditional Live and Silent Auction

Online Auction: The online auction will run from **Monday, October 22nd to Friday, November 2nd** at <http://biddingforgood.com/uucb>. Restaurants, lodging, and gift certificates are the most popular items for those who bid frequently on the BiddingforGood auction site, so if you visit a great restaurant this summer or stay at a nice inn on the ocean, or see a store selling unique items, ask them if they would be willing to donate to our online auction. You can pick up informational handouts from Sue Michaud at church. If you have any donations or questions, please contact Sue Michaud at 729-4857 or michaud_susan@comcast.net.

Silent and Live Auction: A silent and live auction is scheduled for **Saturday, November 3**, so start thinking of what you would like to contribute to this auction. We'll have signups available in the fall. In the meantime, you can help us by providing donation ideas for others (in other words, suggestions of items that you would personally bid on yourself). Please notify Sue Michaud with your ideas.

Dollhouse Raffle: As a fundraiser for the church, the Women's Alliance will be raffling off a dollhouse that was "found" by Ellie Swanson and lovingly restored by Ellie, Janet Alexander, and other members of the Alliance. Tickets will go on sale in September and the raffle drawing will be held at the auction. More information will follow in the September newsletter.

QUILT RAFFLE

YOU STILL HAVE TIME!

The Green Sanctuary will be holding the Quilt Raffle drawing at the September Potluck.

Tickets (\$1 each or 6 for \$5) available from Robin Hansen 443-4571, or see her after church.



VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED

HANNAFORD CARD HELPER

You may have noticed that no one has been selling Hannaford Cards before or after church for a few weeks. Summer trips or projects have kept me away from my duties!

I don't want to miss out on the chance of making money every week though, so I would love to train a couple people to be a substitute on the Sundays that I cannot be in church. It's an easy job, and you would rarely be called upon.

Please contact Sue Michaud at 729-4857 or michaud_susan@comcast.net to learn more about the job.

I will definitely need someone for the August 11th Service, so please get back to me soon.

Sue Michaud
Hannaford Gift Card Coordinator

NANCY'S GLASS ACT

UUCB BENEFIT by Nancy's Glass Act continues on a smaller scale after being at Starz in Brunswick for April and May. Nancy Whiteside's fused/dichroic glass earrings and necklaces can still be purchased with profits going to the rebuilding effort.

They are currently found at *It's All Good* upscale consignment shop at 212D Maine St. (former Christian Science Reading Room) in Brunswick, a fun shop to check out.

They are also at the *General Store* in Bowdoinham, which is connected to the Long Creek School, another interesting place to explore.

You can also contact Nancy directly to see other jewelry (nancysglassact@yahoo.com).

There will be other holiday season opportunities to support the benefit as well.

Happy Summer

August 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1		2		3		4	
		5:30 Building Team: McLellan Bld				Church office Hours: 10 am-2 pm Tedford Meal		10 -5 Peace Fair Circle Suppers	
Reverand Stocker on Vacation									
5		6		7		8		11	
10:00 Service: MBC, Beth Israel in Bath Green Sanctuary Mtg						5:30 Building Team: McLellan Bld		Church office Hours: 10 am-2 pm Circle Suppers 6:30-9 Folk Dancing Grp: People's Plus	
Reverand Stocker on Vacation									
12		13		14		15		18	
10:00 Service: MBC, Beth Israel in Bath Newcomers Corner Circle Sunday Brunch				6:30 Stories with Soul		5 :30 Building Team: McLellan		Church office Hours: 10 am-2 pm 7-10 Side Door Coffee House: MR	
Reverand Stocker on Vacation									
19		20		21		22		25	
10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath 4-8 Worship Committee				6:30 Board Mtg		5:30 Building Team McLellan Bld		Church office Hours: 10 am-2 pm	
26		27		28		29		31	
10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath Newcomer Corner after church				6:30 Stories with Soul		5:30 Building Team McLellan Bld		Office Closed 	

Newsletter editor:
Susan Michaud
michaud_susan@comcast.net
NEXT DEADLINE
for August issue is
Fri, Aug 24, 2011, 5 pm
Rare exceptions: 729-4857

CO - Church Office
MBC - Minnie Brown Center
MR - Morell Room, Library
MH - Member's Home

MO - Minister's Office
PAR - Parlor in 5 Pennell (downstairs)
PEN - 7 Pennell House Upstairs
SP - Saint Paul's

Church events are in **bold** type.