

October 2012

Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church
of Brunswick

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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

October 7 - *“Standing on the Side of Love”*

What makes a family? Love. Service led by the Worship Committee with participation from others, including special guest speaker Phil Richardson. Music provided by Peter Alexander. Hymns by Grace Lewis-McLaren.

October 14 - *“Living in the Layers”*

Whether we like it or not (and most don't), our lives are constantly changing. How shall we cope with our changes? Poet Stanley Kunitz says, “live in the layers, not the litter.” Hmm. Rev. Stocker preaching. Music provided by the choir, directed by Heidi Neufeld. Ann Hartzler at the piano.

October 21 - *“Sacred Stories”*

Everyone has a sacred story, and the sacred stories of Maine's community of immigrants are particularly poignant. Ekhlas Ahmed from Darfur, Sudan, Ahmed Abbas from Iraq, and Chansatha, Meas from Cambodia, members of Color of Community, will join Rev. Stocker for a special service of amazing sacred stories of their journeys to our shores. Rosemarie De Angelis, Color of Community advisor, will participate in the service as well. (Some of you will remember we collaborated with Color of Community on an amazing presentation about immigration last spring. Today's service will offer a deeper glimpse into the spiritual journeys of some of Maine's young immigrants.) Music provided by Jud Caswell. Hymns by Larry Lemmel.

October 28 - *“Guising”*

The custom of “guising,” or wearing a costume, on Hallowe'en dates back a century or so in our country. On this holiday, when we commemorate the dead loved ones in our lives, we ask what happens when one removes the mask? And how does that connect to death itself? You are encouraged to bring a photo or memento of a loved one who has died. We will decorate the front of the church with those special items. Music provided by Kate Gray and Ann Hartzler.

HOW TO REACH US

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

The temporary church office, (at Fort Andross, 14 Maine Street, Brunswick, Suite 210 F & G) is open Tuesday through Friday from 10-4 The office administrator is Shirley Bernier.

The Director of Religious Education, Nicole Shanks, will be in her new office at Fort Andross. She is available by appointment and can be contacted at the church office: 729-8515.

The Minister, Rev. Sylvia Stocker will have office hours at home and at Fort Andross. She is available for 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.

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>



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, September 30, 2012
 at 11:30

Minnie Brown Center

- Presentation from the Building Team, including building budget, with a vote to enter into a building contract
- Vote to add our congregation's name to a statement of support for marriage equality

FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



This fall our RE theme is social justice. Our classes are exploring such topics as diversity, justice, affirmation, respect, cooperation, conflict resolution, fairness, friendship, and caring- all foundational skills and values necessary to working for justice. It's the time of year when our church committees make goals for the year. One of our members suggested that we "pray with our feet" and involve our children in more service projects for our community. I've never heard that phrase before but I like it.

I've been reading *Social Action Heroes: Unitarian Universalists Who Are Changing the World* by Michelle Bates Deakin. In the introduction she writes, "It's the first step that makes a difference... If you are trying to find a way to save the world- whether it's the whole world or a small corner of it- it's the first step that matters most. And then the step after that one." If you haven't taken that first step yet, explore what your passions are and go for it. Families with children are sure busy these days- school, work, sports, music, church, and the list goes on. But, what better way is there to teach children to live lives of justice and compassion than to make a meal and deliver it to the Tedford Shelter (you can sign up to do this through our church!), collect supplies for the animals at the local humane society, rake leaves for the elderly neighbor next door, or adopt a family for the holidays. What will your first step be? How about your second and third? As you take your steps, I'd love to hear how you- the members and friends of the UUCB- are "praying with your feet" and making a difference in our community and the world.

Blessings,

nicole

Important RE Announcements and Dates

October 7 - Multi-Age Activity, please sign up with Nicole
 October 14- Dance with Ed Pontius and Donna Bann
 October 21- RE Classes and Youth Group
 October 28 - RE Classes and Youth Group

... MINISTER'S MUSINGS...

In so many ways, we live in a world of instant gratification. Need to take some money out of your bank account? Just head to the ATM any time of the day or night. Looking for some obscure information? Type the correct words into your web browser and the internet will present you with links to articles and websites that can help you find out what you want to know. Want to get a message to your loved one before the concert is over? Or during math class? Text him or her.

No waiting for the bank to open to get your money. No waiting for the library to open so that you can consult their encyclopedia. No waiting for your loved one to return home. No waiting at all.

Which is one of the reasons why patience seems, at times, to be a shrinking virtue in today's world. How do we learn or remember how to be patient, to wait for things, when so many of our needs or desires seem to be just a few keystrokes away?

And here we are waiting for a church to be built! What a contrast to the pell-mell headlong speed at which things normally operate. "When are you going to break ground?" people ask me all the time. When? When? When?

Before we can dig the first hole or pour the first load of cement, we have to wait for the general contractor, architects, and Building Team to

agree to a modified building plan that fits our budget. The Building Team themselves have to wait until the general contractor and architects calculate the costs for the various elements of the building. Then the Building Team has to slog carefully through the choices and determine the best course. And the congregation has to wait for all of this hard work to be completed before much more action becomes apparent. Sure, a lot of hard work is going into to final plan, but it's hard to wait for the final result.

So, great. An opportunity for all of us to practice patience. We can practice patience with one another, with the process, and with life itself. Because the truth is, no matter how much our keypads, voice-activated software, and fancy tiny screens seem to indicate otherwise, much of life involves waiting, requires patience, demands us to sit still.

Congregations like ours can seem a bastion of activity – especially now, when we are all working so hard to rebuild and to maintain a vibrant community while we are without a church home. But our life together offers much more than work and activity. Congregations like ours offer one of the few places still left in our world to gather together in silence, in contemplation. The faster the world seems to go, the more over-committed people seem to come, the more valuable that quiet sitting seems to me.

Congregations like ours offer the long view, too, in matters of social justice. Because we never cease our justice work and consciousness raising, we learn, over the years, that the work takes time. And while impatience with injustice inspires our work, a certain amount of patience is required to carry out that work and to keep going when inevitable disappointments accrue.

Practicing patience, it turns out, is one of the great blessings congregational life has to offer.

Like many of you, I often find it difficult to wait for the new building. I want it now! Yesterday! At the same time, I am finding this in-between period ripe with opportunities to learn and grow. Learning better how to sit quietly with uncertainty, change, and lack of control is a great gift. Practicing patience is one way to deepen one's spirit and grow one's soul.

Love,
Sylvia



WHAT ARE YOU DONATING TO THE AUCTION?

Call Sue Michaud 729-4857 or anyone on the fundraising committee (Maryli Tiemann, Sue Ellen Damour, Gretchen Kamilevich, Linda Litchfield)

WELCOME PENNY ELWELL



Penny Elwell is a life-long UU whose father was the minister at Arlington Street Church in Boston for 24 years and was head of the denomination at the time of the Unitarian Universalist merger. His last church was the Concord, MA church.

Penny feels that she had a wonderful childhood, growing up in Boston and living on what was the Embankment and is now Storrow Drive. As the youngest of four girls, she learned to sew her own clothes, went roller skating around Boston and was active in the Liberal Religious Youth group. The family went to Star Island every summer and ran a camp in Fitzwilliam, NH where Penny had a job as a junior counselor before she was old enough to get jobs in Boston.

After college, she married her husband Reg and lived in San Francisco with him while he was in the Navy. After the Navy, they moved to Cambridge, MA where Reg took a post grad year at Harvard in the sciences while Penny worked as a case worker at Cambridge AFDC and completed Education certification at Harvard. Reg continued on to Yale to earn a Masters in Forest Management, Penny spending the same two years teaching 5th grade in Cheshire CT.

Reg and Penny moved to Maine and lived in Newburgh, a town of about 1200 people. Penny got a teaching job and Reg worked in forestry. They were very active in the Bangor church for many years. Penny was on the committee for GA '82 at Bowdoin, heading up the volunteer effort. She recruited from churches around the State, helping to supply GA '82 with over 1000 volunteers!

Their last move before they retired to Maine three years ago was to Massachusetts, where Penny taught at the Tower School in Marblehead and finished her M. Ed at Cambridge College. Reg worked in Development at Mass General Hospital. They were both very involved in the North Andover church.

Since moving back to Maine, Penny, Reg and Rosie, their yellow lab, have been settling into their house. Penny says that she has traveled a lot in the past and is happy to be at home in Maine now. She is also a pretty goal-oriented person and, among other things, has started a group to play Mahjong on a regular basis, gotten back into playing tennis regularly, has taken a Spanish class, sung in our choir, and plans to volunteer in the schools. She is a member of PEO, a group that raises money for women's education, and is planning to write children's literature at some point. Her children, Peter, 36, and Debbie, 40, are both school teachers, and she has two grandchildren, ages seven and four.

LARRY LEMMEL IN CONCERT

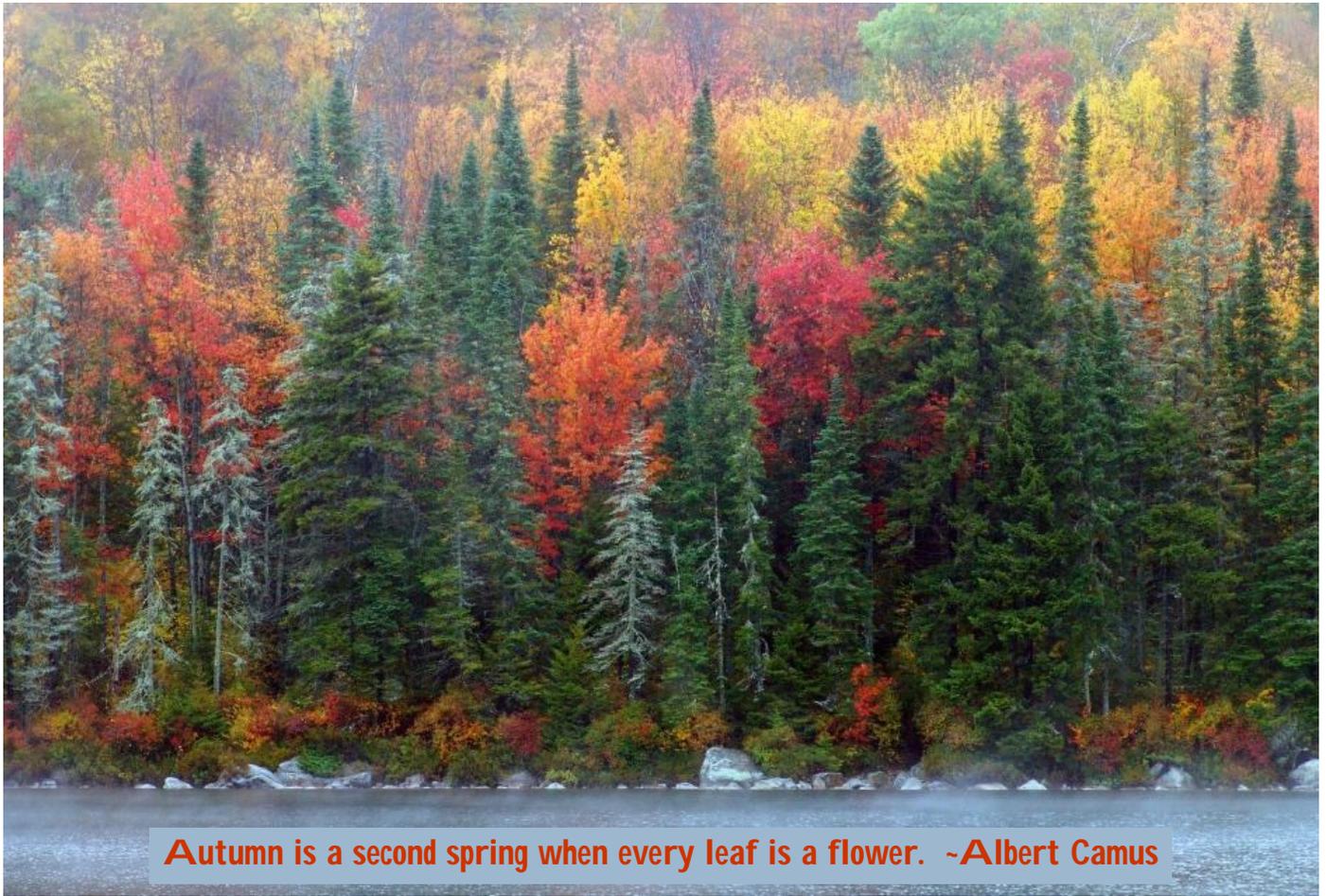
Sunday, October 7
After Church Service

Larry Lemmel, Piano

Music by JS Bach, Chopin, and Debussy



Everyone must take time to sit and watch the leaves turn. ~Elizabeth Lawrence



the 8th annual

CAMDEN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

september 27–30, 2012

Congratulations to our very own Bill Kunitz whose documentary has been chosen for the Camden International Film Festival !!

GORANSON FARM: An Uncertain Harvest

The 2009 season for the Goranson Farm in Maine began like most: full of hope for the year, until the wettest June on record arrived. July 4th brought hail and late potato blight. The film follows the farmers, as they struggle through the harvest and into the following year.

William Kunitz, Director

General Admission Tickets are \$8.50, and will be available at a first come, first serve basis 15 minutes prior to each screening at the appropriate venue. Come early, and get in line.



Saturday, Sep 29, 11:00 a.m. - Farnsworth Art Museum, 16 Museum Street, Rockland

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

EXPLORING YOU AND UU

If you're new to UUCB and/or Unitarian Universalism, the Membership Committee has a wonderful opportunity for you. Please keep reading even if you're not a newcomer! Perhaps you're a friend who has attended our services for a while and would like to learn more about our denomination. Or maybe you're acquainted with Unitarian Universalism through another church but would like to know more about our congregation at UUCB. Membership is sponsoring an orientation course, led by our minister, Sylvia Stocker.

Mark your calendars with these dates for the four-hour course: **Saturday morning, October 27 from 9-1**; or, if you prefer evening meetings, you can attend **Tuesday evenings, October 23 and November 13, 7-9 pm**. The location is **St. Paul's Church** in Brunswick. Please call the church office, 729-8515 with questions or to enroll.

We'll show videos on our history, so you'll understand the Unitarian and Universalist denominations and how they came to be united. You'll meet our Board Chair, Mike Heath, and other Board members and church leaders. You'll learn about our Mission Statement and our Covenant that describe the volunteer relationship of the church community and how the group will support one another and share values.

Newcomers will be oriented and integrated to our faith community; we'll address specific needs of newcomers as we discuss who we are and what we believe. Members will share what it means to them to be a UU; newcomers will examine their personal stories in light of our UU

tradition and heritage. Newcomers and long-timers will have an opportunity to connect on a deeper level than at Coffee Hour or in committee meetings. The course may inspire you to become a church member, but this is not our direct goal. Mostly we want you to know us, our minister, our church leaders, and our mission.

UUs have been asked, "If you don't believe in a specific god, what are you worshipping?" One answer described in the UUA website is that in worship we contemplate what is worthy in our lives and discover what we value most deeply. We strive to align our true values with our actions. Indeed, a goal of UU worship is to find what is sacred to us in our lives and to consider how we wish to relate to what we find sacred.

UUs do not subscribe to a creed; we support freedom of thought and belief. We engage in on-going and continually emerging revelation. We look for truth in many different places and find it via our personal experiences. Ours is a lifespan faith.

Read the words of young UUs attending General Assembly last June. They describe Unitarian Universalism as stated in our 7 Principles as "...love, ...justice, equity and compassion in human relations, ...a free and responsible search for truth and meaning, ...respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part..." Please join us and explore your ideas about Unitarian Universalism. We look forward to sharing with you.

MEMBERSHIP CORDIALLY INVITES EVERYONE TO jUUST DESSERTS!



jUust Desserts is coming right up! Join us on Friday, October 5, from 7-9 pm at St. Paul's Church, Brunswick for an evening of fellowship and sweet treats. An RSVP to the church office, 729-8515, would be helpful for planning. However, if you'd like to come at the last minute and haven't let us know, please come anyway. Join us for all or part of this get together.

This is an opportunity for newcomers, friends, new members and old timers to get to know one another better. Sylvia will be with us for conversation and to answer questions about our UU church community and the UU denomination.

If you'd like to supply desserts, please let Debbie Zorach know by email at dszorach@zwi.net or by phone at 207-729-8103.

ACCOMPANIST WANTED

for Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick, September through June, to rehearse with choir on Thursday evenings and play for worship services three Sunday mornings per month and on Christmas Eve (approximately 10 hrs/month).

Our congregation enjoys an eclectic blend of traditional, modern and world music. We need an enthusiastic, capable keyboard player who can sight-read and accompany hymn-singing to fulfill an essential part of our music program.

Our services are held in Bath while rebuilding after our fire last year.

To learn more about us, please visit www.uubrunswick.org.

If interested in this position, please write to:

uubruns.personnel@gmail.com

or call 207/729-8515.

Interviews and auditions will take place ASAP!

OCTOBER CHARITY WITH SOUL

TEDFORD HOUSING

UUCB has a long history supporting Tedford Housing, including participation in the Meal-a-Month Program.

Mission: Tedford Housing works to end homelessness in Maine by providing, in collaboration with others, shelter, housing and services to those in need working to help people become more self-sufficient and advocate for change so that no one faces the prospect of being without a home.

Values: Tedford Housing is founded on the principle that safe, decent, and affordable housing is a fundamental right. This principle exists within the larger context of quality of life and access to adequate income and health care. Tedford Housing affirms the responsibility each of us has for our own behaviors and the collective responsibility we have for one another.

Vision: Tedford Housing envisions a community in which no one is homeless. Everyone in this community will have a safe place to live, enjoy optimal health, and have means to a good quality of life.

One of the most important volunteer opportunities at Tedford is the Meal-a-Month Program. Restaurants, organizations, and individuals take turns providing a hot meal for guests at the Adult Shelter on Cumberland

Street in Brunswick. For more information, or to sign up for the meal-a-month program, contact Tedford's meal coordinator, Joanne Rosenthal at 725-6301 or 841-6188.

Adult Emergency Shelter

49 Cumberland Street, Brunswick.

**Family Emergency Shelter**

34 Federal Street, Brunswick

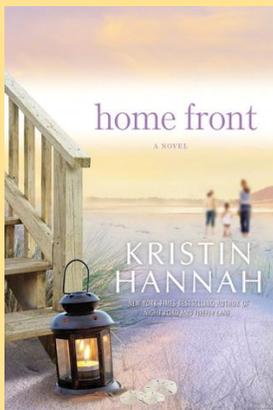


BOOK RECOMMENDATION

Daphne Holden has a suggestion for you bookworms out there.:

Home Front

by Kristin Hannah



This is a magnificent story of two women helicopter pilots deployed to Iraq and an honest look at modern marriage. It is a dramatic exploration of the toll war takes on an ordinary American family, *Home Front* is a story of love, loss, heroism, honor, and ultimately, hope.

WHAT'S TO BECOME OF ME IN THE END?
THE DISPOSITION OF MY REMAINS

The Funeral Consumers Alliance of Maine will hold its annual meeting on November 3 from 9 until noon at the First Universalist Church, 169 Pleasant Street, Auburn. The program will consist of a panel presenting various options for dealing with our bodies after death. Each panel member will describe an approach and then there will be time for questions and answers. The panel begins at 10 a. m. following the 9 o'clock business meeting of the organization and refreshments. Admission is free and donations will be gratefully accepted. The public is invited to attend.

Panel members will address body donation, burial in a green cemetery, standard burial, cremation, alkaline hydrolysis, using a columbarium for ashes, and spreading ashes. Handouts will be provided.

For more information call Connie Wurtz: 926-4343.

DOLLHOUSE RAFFLE



Just a reminder that you have one more month to buy a raffle ticket(s) for the dollhouse that the Women's Alliance is selling to raise funds for our new church. The dollhouse will be raffled off at the UUCB's auction November 3, 2012 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Brunswick. You do not need to be present to win. Winner must pick up dollhouse within 2 weeks of drawing

Dimensions of the dollhouse are 40"high, 24" deep, and 30 1/2" wide. It contains five rooms complete with furnishings. It is too cute to resist—a little girl's dream. Don't have a little girl or a granddaughter, then buy a ticket for one of the little girls of our church.

The raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or \$25.00 for 6. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact the church secretary at [207-729-8515](tel:207-729-8515) or Gretchen at [207-833-5125](tel:207-833-5125). You can always make out a check to UUCB, put dollhouse in the memo section, and mail to the church office at: Unitarian Universalist Church, PO Box 129, Brunswick, ME 04011.

OCTOBER 3RD COUNCIL MEETING

Greetings!

Fall is just around the corner, and with it, some exciting new ways of envisioning programming for UUCB! As a follow-up to our very successful June Program Planning Event, we will be holding the first of four scheduled Council meetings on Wednesday, October 3, at 6:45pm in the Morrill Room at Curtis Memorial Library. Here is our tentative agenda for the evening.

6:45 - Dessert

7:00 - Welcome and Warm-up Activity

7:10 - 8:00 Committee Chairs share Committee Review Sheets

8:10 - 8:50 - Discussion with all interested program leaders and Committee Chairs

"What are we doing here? How and why is this crucial to the church?"

Re-visiting the calendar and updates since June

8:50 - 9:00 - Summing up
Next Steps

9:00 - Adjourn

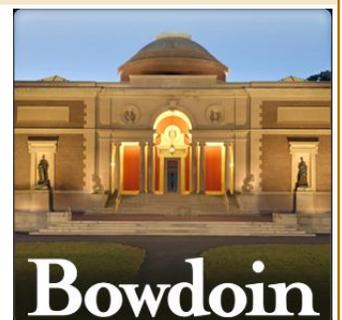
Those persons who are not Committee Chairs but who are interested in this process are welcome to attend the entire meeting, or to arrive at 8:00 for the focused discussion on the calendar and programming in the coming year.

In fellowship and anticipation,

Pat Harris. Council Facilitator

NEXT WOMEN'S ALLIANCE MEETING

The Women's Alliance cordially invites all women of the church to their October meeting on **Tuesday, October 23rd, 10:30am, at the Bowdoin College Art Museum**. Please plan to arrive 10 minutes early as our tour of the museum starts at 10:30. After the tour we will go to the Frontier Café at Fort Andross for lunch and a short business meeting. Questions? Please call Gretchen at 833-5125.



Bowdoin

FALL AUCTION

*Important
DATES!*

**Auctions are coming!\$!
Auctions are coming!\$!
ie, Silent and Live(ly)**

Put it on your calendar!!!

Saturday, November 3rd at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Brunswick at 5:30 for the Silent and Live(ly) Auctions. Plan to come and bring friends.

The Online auction at BiddingforGood.com/UUCB will run from **October 22nd thru November 2nd**.

Buy your tickets!!! Tickets will be for sale for \$5 through Sunday, October 28th at church and by calling Sue Ellen Damour at 406-2410. After that they will be available at the door for \$10!!!

Donate!!! We anticipate **EACH** household will donate something to the auction **and** bring something for our meal. Donating your self in service is always a powerful way to make our community stronger.

Sign up to help!!! Sign up at church or call one of these Fundraising Committee members.

Susan Michaud will be collecting donations slips for both the live and auction auction: 729-4857

Gretchen Kamilewicz will be the captain of the kitchen and dinner set up. 833-5125

Linda Litchfield will be lead decorator and head of the silent auction set up. 353-8785

Maryli Tiemann will be organizing the live auction items. 729-5311

Sue Ellen Damour is keeping you informed. 406-2410

Spread the news!!! We need bidders from within the church AND outside the church.



We will be partnering with some other non-profit organization...still a suspense item!

FLOWERS AND FOCAL POINTS



WORSHIP COMMITTEE DEVICES NEW SYSTEM FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

The Worship Committee will be overseeing the altar flower arrangements. We'd like to have a fresh centerpiece every Sunday.

Our goal is to have people sign up for the whole year...way in advance. It's not too early to reserve for a Sunday in November 2012, a week in January of 2013, or June.

Sienna Dode is taking names for the whole year. If there's a special day or person whom you wish to honor by donating flowers, please call her now. Sienna will sign you up for that desired Sunday and call to remind you the Monday **before** your Sunday.

You can donate flowers just because you want to beautify the altar and our worship space. And we encourage anyone who wants to bring in a seasonal or holiday arrangement. The Worship Committee believes that this is a great an easy way to give back to UUCB. We hope the congregation is as excited about this new opportunity to volunteer as we are!

Look for Sienna's Halloween bouquet on October 28th...her favorite holiday!

Please note that the worship committee is not responsible for bringing in or taking home the arrangements. It is expected that each 'flower donor will bring in their arrangement and put it on the altar by 9:45 AM, as well as take it home with them at 11 AM. There will be a three-month sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary every Sunday.(with pen attached) So you have no excuses not to choose a week. Should 2 people want the same week..we'll use one arrangement at the altar and one in the rear of sanctuary. I think, I've thought of everything...thanks in advance for your participation!

Sienna Dode

Side Door Coffee House

Friday, October 19
7-10 pm

Featured performer:
Martin Swinger



Martin Swinger focuses 40 years of performing experience into award-winning original songs, traditional and contemporary Americana music, swing and jazz standards and improvisational music with the ensemble, ImproVox. A veteran of Boston Folk Festival and Kerrville Folk Festival, Martin is known for his sterling performance and vocal range, surprisingly diverse repertoire, brilliant songwriting and engaging stage presence. Martin's talent and experience prove to be a winning combination!

- Doors open at 7PM .
- Open mic sign up is from 7PM to 7:15.
- Open mic performances are from 7:15 - 8:30, with an 8 minute/2 song limit. (Poets, story tellers, etc are all welcome)
- Martin will perform at 9PM

Admission is \$8 - \$6 for Teens and Seniors

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

*Mark your calendars for upcoming
Working for Justice events!*

The Working for Justice Steering Group is offering several ways for our congregation to become more reflective, informed, and active on issues relating to our congregation's chosen ministry of preventing prejudice and hate. In offering these events, we join with our denomination's mission to *stand on the side of love*. (uua.org/love). For more information, speak with a member of the Steering Group (Cathey Cyrus, Jane Danielson, Sue Kennedy, Catherine Knowles, Ed McCartan, Faith Woodman).

At our **Sunday service, October 21**, we will hear from 3 Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) students – a woman from Darfur; a man from Iraq, and a woman from Cambodia. They come with Rosemarie DeAngelis's *Color of Community*, a nonprofit group of students who offer "sacred stories" of their journeys of beginning new lives in this country. Please come to listen and to let these new Mainers know you "hear" them.



On **Wednesday, October 24, 7 – 9:30 pm, Morrell Room**, we will show the Sundance award-winning film, *Love Free or Die* (lovefreeordiemovie.com), the story of Episcopal Bishop, Gene Robinson, the first openly gay person to serve in that role. This powerful film (one hour and 22 minutes) will be followed by a brief discussion for those who wish to participate.

Information will be available about Maine's upcoming marriage equality referendum.

On **Friday, November 2, 7 – 9:30 pm, Morrell Room**, we will host a community gathering to hear Rosemarie DeAngelis and her *Color of Community* students to present an evening of "sacred stories" followed by conversation and dessert. Here is an opportunity to learn from new Mainers who are so generous with their life stories and who can help us understand the meaning of *standing on the side of love*.



FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Hurry up and Wait!

This sums up a large part of the last few months for the Board, and in part for the Building Team as well. Most everyone in the congregation knows that we've been ready to vote on a building contract for our new church, and we've been preparing for official meetings since July. It's just that a contract hasn't been ready for us. Every two weeks, or so it seems, the Board has authorized and then cancelled meeting after meeting.

Well, the next meeting on the docket as this Parish Messenger goes to press is September 30. We may or may not have the Building Team's recommendation by then, but it is true that we are getting closer. Following the bid opening and accepting a relationship with Benchmark Construction we are working to reconcile budgets and adjust plans to make the building affordable. The whole community has stepped up with unprecedented levels of support, and yet to get the features and function we want in the new building we are right at the limit of our means. I hope you are following developments and will attend discussions ahead of the next

major vote to launch construction. The building budget is very much on the mind of the Building Team and Board, as is staying true to our commitments to the congregation for a functional structure that meets the needs of our young people and the community as a whole.

As Sylvia has said many times, that in spite of the challenges, and perhaps because of them, "We will have a building!" It goes without saying that we already have a Church, and I have to say, it's already better than ever.

The Board held its annual retreat in September and tried to clarify, on a macro level, "The Board's Role" or "What is the Board is really supposed to do?" Discussion was lively (there is no lack of opinion among your Trustees) as we considered a list of suggestions from the UUA. A few responsibilities are very clear to all of us, especially those of formulating policy and ensuring the financial health of the church. And a few items are clearly the responsibility of other arms of the church (Church Council, committees, staff, volunteers) such as developing programs

and monitoring day-to-day operations. It's those fuzzy areas on the edge that generate the most interesting discussion – what's the Board's role in setting strategic direction for the church, for example. We continue to look at the best role for the Board to play in setting wheels in motion, monitoring activity and holding various groups accountable. Some of this will lead to our goals for this year, and some will lead to the Board seeking input from groups and individuals throughout the year. As a group of volunteers ourselves, we all have a lot to learn, and relearn as we assume our leadership roles.

We face another year of transition in which we have no permanent home (yet) and will have to continue adapting to changing schedules and plans. Yet with the extraordinary creativity and commitment from so many, UUCB thrives. Thank you for your role in making all of our lives richer and more fulfilling.

With wishes for Peace and Equality in this election season,

Mike Heath



Thank you to Carter Ruff who has offered to donate one of his hand-crafted guitars to the church auction(s). Carter is currently in the process of making the guitar which he hopes will be completed before the auction starts. By the way, this particular guitar is extra special because he is making it from some pinewood salvaged from our old church pews.

You may have seen Carter and his auction donation in the news lately: It was in The Bangor Daily News on Sept. 24 & the Times Record on Sept. 24. The Bangor Daily News Online even has a video of Carter working on the project.

Tell all your guitar-loving friends about this exciting opportunity to own a one-of-a-kind piece of artwork and history!



October 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2 6:30-8:30 Worship Com: FA-111	3 6:45 Church Council: MR	4 7-8:30 Choir	5 Tedford Meal 7-9 jUUsT Desserts: St. Paul's	6
7 10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath Green Sanctuary Mtg Membership Committee 11:45 Larry Lemmel Piano Concert	8  Columbus Day	9 6:30 Stories with Soul	10	11 7-8:30 Choir	12	13
14 10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath Conversation Corner	15	16 6-9 Board Mtg: FA-210	17	18 6:15 RE Committee 7-8:30 Choir	19 5:30-9 UU Writers Retreat 7-10 Sidedoor Coffeehouse MR Library (Martin Swinger)	20 9-1 UU Writers Retreat
21 10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath	22 ONLINE Auction starts	23 6:30 Stories with Soul 7-9 New UU Class: St. Paul's	24 12:00 Men's Luncheon 7-9:30 Film <i>Love Free or Die</i> : MR	25 7-8:30 Choir	26 6:30-8:30 UUCB Community Dance and Bake Sale	27 9-1 New UU Class: St. Paul's
ONLINE Auction - http://biddingforgood.com/uucb - Please Spread the News						
28 10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath Conversation Corner	29 6:00 Women's Alliance Potluck: St. Paul's	30 6:30 Stories with Soul	31 	1 November	2 ONLINE Auction ends	3 LIVE Auction 5:30 Live Auction & Dinner: Knights of Columbus
ONLINE Auction - http://biddingforgood.com/uucb - Please Spread the News						

FA - Fort Andross Church Office **MO** - Minister's Office
MBC - Minnie Brown Center **PAR** - Parlor in 5 Pennell (downstairs)
MR - Morell Room, Library **PEN** - 7 Pennell House Upstairs
MH - Member's Home **SP** - Saint Paul's

Church events are in **bold** type.

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NEXT DEADLINE
for November issue is
Fri, October 19, 2012, 5 pm