

Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church
of Brunswick



March, 2016

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*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

Derek Herzer, Choir Accompanist

Shirley Bernier, Office Administrator

Tony Sulkoski, Sexton



SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10 A.M.

March 6 “Prayer. (Why? When? How?)”

Rev. Sylvia Stocker

At this service we will pass out Guest at Your Table boxes for people to use to collect money for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. (See article on page 8.) Music provided by the choir, conducted by Heidi Neufeld and accompanied by Derek Herzer.

March 13 “Hands to Work, Hearts to God.”

Rev. Sylvia Stocker

The Shakers established unique, deeply spiritual communities. They were also very hard workers. Why is that important for us today? In this service, Sylvia will be joined by Kathy Smith, Development Director of Habitat for Humanity, itself a spiritual group that works hard. UUCB is a covenant member of Habitat for Humanity and we, too, are a spiritual group that works hard. Music provided by Anne and Ross Miller, with Jean Lay accompanying the hymns.

March 20 “Seeing through the Eyes of Others”

David Damour

Dave will talk about the thoughts which were inspired by his cornea surgery. Music by Derek Herzer.

March 24 Maundy Thursday Communion Service

6:30 p.m.

We have a tradition of gathering all the ministers associated with our congregation to provide a communion service to commemorate the Last Supper. That practice comes from a deeper tradition of Maundy Thursday being an occasion in many Christian churches when ministers renew their vows. At our contemplative Maundy Thursday service, all participants ponder their ministry to the wider world. Service led by our minister Sylvia Stocker, Minister Emeritus Brad Mitchell, and Ed McCartan, minister of the Phippsburg Chapel (and also a UUCB member). Harp music provided by Louise Gephart.

March 27, Easter Joy and Happiness.

Rev. Sylvia Stocker

On this Easter morning, we will rejoice in the arrival and hope of spring. At this exultant service, we will be graced with music from the choir, conducted by Heidi Neufeld and accompanied by Derek Herzer. We will collect the Guest at Your Table boxes at this service.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Do you ever find it difficult to look at (or listen to) the news? I know I do. Sometimes I can't bear the thought of reading about more violence, greed, and war. I'm currently going through one of those periods when I avoid the news like the plague, but today something got through my anti-news defenses, and I'm glad it did. I learned that Terry Tempest Williams and her husband recently formed a corporation, Tempest Explorations LLC, so that they can legally purchase oil and gas leases at government auctions. You

may recall a story from 2008 in which a young man by the name of Tim DeChristopher bid on land in an oil and gas auction in order to prevent public wilderness lands from being pillaged for great profit by oil and gas companies. He spent two years in jail for misrepresenting himself by bidding without the means to pay. The Williamses were warned that they too could be arrested at the auction if they were misrepresenting themselves. But, in the end they had the money to pay for the land for which they acquired the rights. Winning a bid on gas and oil rights to public lands requires that the winner use the lands to develop energy. Turns out that Tempest Exploration does indeed intend to develop energy. They aim to develop energy for the environmental movement "Keep it in the Ground". This energy will not be oil, gas, or even wind or solar. They aim to use beautiful wilderness lands and their now preserved habitats to cultivate the energy of passion, imagination, and creativity in order to fuel a movement that aims to mitigate climate change and foster respect for our planet and all its inhabitants. After all, the government has not strictly defined what "energy development" actually means.

It's an unfortunate fact that humans have shown a great capability for destruction- pillaging and destroying the very planet that sustains us in exchange for money and power. But, it's also apparent that humans can be clever and creative- harnessing imagination and courage to build movements that make a difference and inspire others. I suspect that many of us have joined our church, at least in part, to be involved in a community that helps us on our journey to become better versions of ourselves. Sharing ideas with others and giving and receiving support multiplies our power to create change in our world. This month the RE program is beginning the final unit of our program year, which centers on the theme of environmental justice. We'll be learning about interdependence, cycles, cooperation, respect, sharing, and much more. Who knows, maybe someday one of our children will come up with a creative idea of their own that starts a worldwide movement! In the meantime, young or old, we can learn and support each other in our daily quest to tread lightly on our earth and respect all living beings.

Nicole



HOW TO REACH US

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

Office Hours at 1 Middle Street are
Tues through Friday from 10-4
The office administrator is
Shirley Bernier.

The Minister, Rev. Sylvia Stocker works from home and her church office.

Her regular office hours are on
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4 pm.
She is also available by appointment.

To guarantee an appointment, it's always best to call and schedule a meeting. 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.

The Director of Religious Education, Nicole Shanks, is available by appointment. You can call her at the church office or email her at uubrunswickdre@gmail.com.

Monday is the Sabbath for church staff.

Telephone/Fax: 207 729-8515

E-mail: uubruns@gwi

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

IMPORTANT RE DATES

Mar 06: RE Classes, Youth Group

Mar 13: Multi-Age Activity PreK-6

Mar 20: RE Classes, OWL

Mar 27: Easter Multi-Age Activity

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

The light is really beginning to return now. Have you noticed? When I head out for my early morning walks I no longer have to don the reflective vest that makes me visible in the dark to cars whisking through the mostly deserted streets. The birds are singing. Even on recent cold mornings, when the temperatures were below zero, the walk didn't feel bad at all because the sun was shining brilliantly in the sky.

I am always surprised at how quickly the light returns. Even though the change in daylight is subtle on a day-to-day basis, the accumulation of those extra minutes of brightness can make a big difference in the short span of a week.

Temperatures lag behind, of course, because that extra sunlight needs some time to warm the earth up before we really begin to feel it. Same, too, as the seasons turn cooler. The days shorten first, and then temperatures begin to drop. Even though I understand that relationship of light (or lack thereof) and temperature, it sometimes feels to me as though the earth is always playing catchup with whatever the sun is doing.

I guess it's that way for human beings, too – at least for me. I need time to absorb new things and work them into the fabric of my life. Developing new habits doesn't happen automatically. At first I need lots of reminders and lots of practice before new things become habitual. An example: computer updates that change the way things worked in the past often leave me spluttering. Sometimes I feel as though I am always playing catchup, just like the earth's temperatures trying to keep up with the hours of sunlight.

How does that square with the fast pace of our world? If I am like other

human beings (and surely I am), there must be a lot of folks like me who need time and space to react to and absorb major changes. And yet the rate of change with which we all live seems to be speeding up exponentially. In a sermon a few years ago, I remember citing a statistic to the effect that students entering college would be trained in computer technology that was already obsolete by the time they graduated. And that rate of change has only increased since I preached that sermon! How fast does technology change now? I shudder to imagine.

I have found that in a world that relentlessly hurls rapid-fire changes at me, my spirit requires, more and more, that I intentionally take some time for myself – that I step out of the fray for spiritual refreshment. Daily walking, for me, isn't simply aerobic exercise; it's also a way to carve out some time for myself. Practicing music (an activity that, sadly, often falls to the bottom of my list – and even off my list at times) isn't simply a drill to improve my playing skills. It's another way to claim time I need to feed my heart and soul. The same goes for times of meditation and prayer. Times of quiet. Times of contemplation and thoughtfulness. I push back against the world that seems always to want me to speed up. I don't want to spend my days feeling as though I am the temperature trying to catch up with the increasing (or decreasing) hours of daily sunlight.

What feeds your spirit? Do you take time to nourish your soul?

This is my prayer: That the richness and fullness of our days include some time for quiet and reflection, time for nurturing our souls. And this is my prayer: That our congregation – itself a source of busyness

for many of us – always provides a safe setting for us to chisel away times and spaces for the kind of down-deep contemplation and quiet that feeds the human spirit.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Dear Ones, it was wonderful to see your dear faces on February 7 and, especially, to have been the recipient of such a lovely welcome home. With you being my favorite congregation, soup being my favorite food, and me being starving after leading a service, there really could not have been a more perfect celebration than the after-church SoUUp's On, which was planned by the Membership Committee and carried out by a cast of thousands. (Well, okay, maybe dozens.) Didn't our new building lend itself beautifully to the event? How fortunate we all are to have such a lovely space for our congregational home. Thank you so much for all the work that went into making it possible. Thank you for welcoming me in such a glorious way. Thank you for being you! I feel truly blessed to be among you.

Love, *Sylvia*

EASTER FLOWERS



To decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 27, we are offering an assortment of potted plants from Skillins Greenhouse, which offers special prices for churches. Among us, we will create a colorful array to welcome Spring!

If you would like your plant(s) to be dedicated to a loved one, we will put the dedication in the Order of Worship on Easter Sunday.



Orders due at the church office by THURSDAY, MARCH 17.

FLOWER	PRICE	HOW MANY?	EXTENDED COST (Price times number ordered)	COLOR (where applicable)	DEDICATION
6" pot of tulips (choose red, yellow, or pink)	7.99				
7" pot of narcissus	7.99				
4" pot tete-a tetes (small daffodils)	3.20				
		(Add up "Extended Cost" column): -->	TOTAL \$ \$ Please make check out to UUCB		

SEEKING A YOUTH ADVISER

Seeking a Youth Adviser to work with UUCB's DRE in grades 7 thru 12. This is a stipend position from September through Mid-June for an average of 15 hours per month. Working Sunday mornings (3 of 4 or 4 of 5) per month is required. Occasional evenings and other weekend hours will be negotiated as schedule allows.

Primary responsibilities include meeting regularly with the DRE to plan and implement youth programs and activities. Help facilitate service activities with the youth group. Communicate with parents and youth regarding group meetings, events and activities. Attend any relevant training as schedule, hours and church budget allows.

MAINE MOMS DEMAND ACTION



FILM AND DISCUSSION: *LIVING FOR 32*

Directed by Kevin Breslin and produced by Maria Cuomo Cole, *Living for 32* is the inspirational story of Colin Goddard, a survivor of the tragic gun shooting massacre which occurred on the Virginia Tech campus, April 16th, 2007. The winning combination of Colin's passion, charisma and optimism has commanded the attention of the American public and media since the devastating incident which left 32 dead and 17 injured. In *Living for 32*, Colin shares an intimate account of terror he and his classmates endured and the courageous journey of renewal and hope he chose to pursue.

MINNIE BROWN CENTER

Tuesday, March 22, 7:00pm, Doors open at 6:30pm

906 Washington Avenue, Bath, Maine

Maine Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense is a coalition of Maine moms, survivors of gun violence, law enforcement, faith leaders, domestic violence prevention advocates, and other concerned Mainers mobilizing to reduce gun violence and protect our communities. We support the Second Amendment, and we believe that rights come with responsibilities. We want to improve public safety by requiring criminal background checks for all gun sales, with reasonable exceptions for family, hunting, and self-defense.

CONTACT INFO

Debbie Atwood, Regional Field Director, (207) 504-1918, portlandro@mainemomsdemandaction.org

Parking is on street and No Parking areas are strictly enforced.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEAD A SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE?

During the summer, when Rev. Stocker takes a well-deserved break, the UUCB Worship Committee provides a series of meaningful lay led services to keep us connected, to inspire us, and to invite new and/or different voices into the pulpit to share their thoughts and ideas.

The Worship Committee is beginning the planning process and wants to know if you (members and friends) have the desire and willingness to lead a service this summer? Those of you who have done this before are, of course, invited to return. We also extend an invitation to first timers. If the thought is a scary one to you, please know that you will be mentored through the entire process by a Worship Associate who will help you with the planning and implementation of your service. Summer services this year officially begin on June 19th and run thru August 14th.

The dates lay leaders will be needed in the pulpit are: **June 19, June 26, July 3, July 10, July 17, July 24, July 31, August 7 and August 14.**

If you have an idea (or a question) for a service, please jot it down and send it along to:

Anne Merrifield: two.gulls@rocketmail.com
or Wendy Roundy: wendyroundy@gmail.com.

Any member of the worship committee will be happy to talk with you before you make a decision. Please submit your ideas, questions, or requests by 5p.m., Tuesday, May 3rd, so that the committee can set the summer schedule during their monthly meeting. Stephanie Bernier, Carol Briggs, Sharon Brown, David Damour, Dan Ellis, Louise Gephart, Pat Harris, Anne Merrifield and Wendy Roundy – Your 2016 UUCB Worship Associates.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE



spindleworks

FEBRUARY CHARITY WITH SOUL

SPINDLEWORKS

(an art-based day program for adults with disabilities)



Independence Association

Created by Independence Association in 1978, Spindleworks offers art supplies, studio and gallery space in a nurturing environment to artists with disabilities.



Artistic exploration, community engagement, personal growth and personal expression are fostered through workshops, visits from local artists, and an environment of constant learning. In this supportive atmosphere, the artists are given responsibility and creative license, encouraged to make good choices and collaborate with one another. This engagement is focused on developing social and peer leadership skills, confidence and self-esteem. Skill-building that supports independence in daily life is gained through participating in their artistic pursuits.



Spindleworks currently supports 45 member artists working in a historic building just off Maine Street. The facility includes a three season pottery studio, sculpture studio, weaving rooms, darkroom, painting and drawing studios, as well as areas for sewing and textile arts. Artists have access to computers, still and video cameras, and are encouraged to express themselves using the written word as well visual means.

The artwork created in the Spindleworks studios is sold in the store and gallery as well as at other events and exhibits throughout the year. The artists earn 75% from the sale of their work.



Exhibiting regularly throughout southern and midcoast Maine, the Spindleworks artists have gained a respected place in the state's diverse artistic community.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

MUUSAN UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

For MUUSAN, these seven UUs from four congregations made a timely visit to the Lewiston office of Senator Susan Collins where they met with staffer Carlene Tremblay to share their concerns related to climate change. With 2015 just named the hottest year on record, these citizen-activists thanked the Senator for her support of the President’s Clean Power Plan and the state’s efficiency efforts. They asked that the Senator take an even bolder stance by proposing a carbon tax that would finally require polluters to either pay to pollute or invest in cleaner energy.



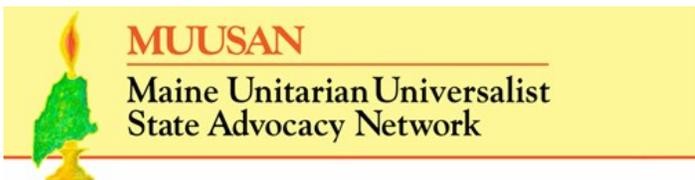
Photo L to R: Helen Cunningham, Casco Bay HS Junior (Allen Ave. UU, Portland); Michael Williams (Allen Ave. UU, Portland); Melanie Lancot (UU Community Church of Augusta); Mary Simpson (UU Community Church of Augusta); Mary Ann Larson (First Parish Portland UU); Isabel Denham (Allen Ave. UU, Portland); Jane Pentheny (First Universalist, Auburn).

MUUSAN Welcomes Betsy Parsons

The Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN) is pleased to announce it has hired Betsy Parsons of South Portland as its Administrator. Betsy is a long-time member of the Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church of Portland.

Her background includes thirty years of teaching English in the Portland Public Schools and preparing novice teachers in Maine and Massachusetts. She is a longtime LGBT civil rights activist who has been deeply involved in organizing for safer schools through the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) of Southern Maine. That chapter, along with Downeast GLSEN, has worked to reduce hate language and harassment in schools by helping students establish Gay-Straight-Trans Alliances in half of Maine’s high schools.

Betsy holds degrees from Oberlin College, Brown University, and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She was appointed by Republican, Independent and Democratic Governors of Maine to serve on state educational commissions and was a member of the first delegation of LGBT teachers and students to meet with a U.S. Secretary of Education. Betsy has received a number of awards and honors, most notably the Gerda Haas Award for Excellence in Human Rights Education and Leadership from the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine. She is widely known throughout Maine for her work on social justice issues.



WORKING FOR JUSTICE

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Beginning at UUCB on Sunday, March 16



WHAT IS GUEST AT YOUR TABLE (GAYT)?

GAYT is an annual, denomination-wide fundraising and education program that supports UUSC's human rights work.

WHAT IS UUSC (UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SERVICE COMMITTEE)?

UUSC is a 501©3 nonprofit associate member organization of the Unitarian Universalist Association that advances human rights in more than a dozen countries around the world through grassroots collaboration. Grounded in UU values, UUSC is nonsectarian and open to all.

WHAT IS THIS YEAR'S GUEST AT YOUR TABLE THEME?

This year's GAYT highlights the empowerment of refugees and displaced people. One of UUSC's major focuses is serving the people who are most overlooked or discriminated against in the midst of humanitarian crises such as forced migration, large-scale conflicts, genocide, and natural disasters. This year UUSC celebrates its 75th anniversary and looks back to its origin: Martha and Reverend Waitstill Sharp helping European refugees escape persecution during World War II. The Sharps' story is included in the *Stories of Hope* booklets to be passed out with orders of service on March 6.

WHY IS IT CALLED GUEST AT YOUR TABLE?

This program introduces you to grassroots leaders around the world who are advancing human rights, and who are supported by UUSC. You are encouraged to "invite" those leaders to your table - into your community or your home - as "guests", by sharing their stories and contributing to their work through the UUSC. We are providing you with a contribution box into which you can put your contributions as you "share" each meal with your guests. We encourage you to talk together about the meaning of contributing to work that furthers human rights and sustainability.

HOW DOES THE UUCB CONGREGATION CONTRIBUTE TO GUEST AT YOUR TABLE?

On March 6, the Sunday service will call attention to the work of UUSC, and you will receive a collection box along with a *Stories of Hope* booklet. Over the next 3 weeks, read and discuss these stories as well as other stories you know about people coming together to work for a more just and sustainable world. At each meal put your contributions to UUSC into the box. **At the end of 3 weeks, count the money in your box and write a check to UUSC with GAYT in the memo line. We will collect the checks on Sunday, March 27 (Easter!) during the church service.** (If you cannot be there on the 27th, you can bring or mail your contribution to the church office to be turned in as part of the UUCB GAYT contribution to UUSC.)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY NEWS



On **Sunday, March 13th**, Kathy Smith, Development Director for Habitat for Humanity/7Rivers Maine, will be in church to give a brief update on Habitat's work in the area. She will be part of the Sunday morning service. After the service, Kathy, as well as UUCB Habitat volunteers, will be available for any questions you may have. In addition to our site work volunteers, three members of UUCB are now volunteering in the ReStore. Thanks go to Carol Briggs, Catharine Chase, and Mike Heath.

Save the Date!!! Sunday, May 1st, is the annual Spring Walk for Habitat. I will have walkers' forms the beginning of April.

Gretchen Kamilewicz

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

PUBLIC FORUM

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

11:30 PM

MAY SARTON ROOM

(hosted by Working for Justice)

Speaker Alex Wheelright
Bread for the World



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.



Alex Wheelright, of Bread for the World, will be here to discuss Poverty Focused Development Assistance (PFDA) and the upcoming budget. PFDA provides nutritional assistance to millions of mothers and infant children around the world during critical stages of development.

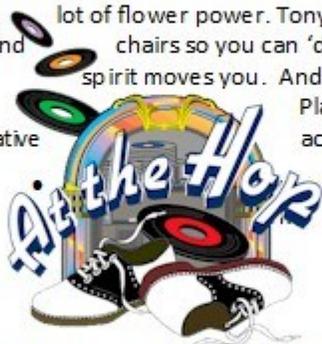
After service there will be a chance to discuss this issue in more depth and write letters to our elected officials on the topic.

For more information: <http://www.bread.org/offering-letters>

Sock Hop Saturday at UUCB! April 16th

Have you heard... I'm throwing myself a 65th birthday party.

Be there, or be square. I'll be transforming the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall into a psychedelic paradise with neon colors and a lot of flower power. Tony and I will be shuffling around chairs so you can 'dance the night away' if the spirit moves you. And don't forget to stop by The Play Room (MSR) for some creative activities.



There's just one hitch: everyone must wear "funky socks". Sock Cop will be checking feet at the door. Outrageous outfits ie. mismatched, vintage or just plain ugly...are enthusiastically encouraged. Please no gifts. Hope to see you there.

Sienna Dode



Join us for Connie Wurtz's 90th birthday!

Date: Sat. March 26

Place: UU Church of Brunswick

When: 1-3 pm

Bring: a Pun!

RSVP: bettywurtz@gmail.com or 406-4960

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

UUCB CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE: ELLIS PAUL

Saturday, 3/12/15 @ 7:30 pm

Ellis Paul, one of Maine's most lauded singer-songwriters, will perform at the Brunswick UU Church on March 12th at 7:30 pm.

Paul's provocative and urbanly romantic folk-pop style helped ignite the folk revival of the 1990's. Paul has won 14 Boston Music Awards, published a book, played thousands of shows and released over 16 albums. His pop music songs have appeared in movies and TV. Last year Paul was invited to give the commencement address at the University of Maine and was given an honorary doctorate.



©2012 Neale Eckstein

Lee Zimmerman (reviewer for American Songwriter) writes: "Though some may refer to Paul as a folksinger, he is more, for lack of a better word, a singular storyteller, a musician whose words reach out from inside and yet also express the feelings, thoughts and sensibilities that most people can relate to in one way or another, regardless of age or upbringing."

Did you know??? Wendy Roundy was Paul's high school English teacher in Presque Isle. Perhaps that's where he learned to write so well!

Tickets: \$20 in advance, \$22 at the door. Available after church services (**David Roundy or Sue Michaud**), or at the church office (729-8515), Gulf of Maine Books (729-5083), or ONLINE at <http://uucbpaul.brownpapertickets.com>.



BUILDING A VOCAL COMMUNITY® WORKSHOP SINGING IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN TRADITION

**Saturday, April 2
9:30am - 4:00pm**

Ysaye M. Barnwell, longtime member of the Grammy Award-winning ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock, will lead an all-day workshop – sing rhythms, chants and traditional songs of Africa, as well as songs from African American culture - spirituals, ring shouts, hymns, gospels, and songs from the Civil Rights Movement. The historical, social and political context will be provided.

No prior musical experience is necessary; the only requirements are a willingness to sing as fully as you can and to embrace joy.

To attend the workshop, fill out the Registration Form by March 26.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Ysaye Workshop Registration Form

April 2, 2016, 9:30am-4pm

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Registration Fee

- Single rate—\$50
- Couple rate—\$75 (2 family members living in same household)
- Family rate—\$100 (3 or more family members living in same household)

Lunch (optional) - \$10 each

Order a gourmet bag lunch (sandwich, side, and cookie) from *Union Street Bakery* or bring your own.

Number of Lunches @ \$10 each

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

LUNCH CHOICES

- A. Curried Chicken Salad on homemade bread
- B. Sliced Turkey wrap, provolone, pesto, mayo, lettuce & tomato
- C. Tuna, avocado, lettuce, tomato & sprouts on homemade bread
- D. Hummus wrap with veggies (**gluten-free**)

Name : _____ Lunch Choice: _____

Return Registration Form and Money to:
UU Church of Brunswick, P.O. Box 129, Brunswick, ME 04011

Phone: (207) 729-8515 e-mail: uubruns@gwi.net

Checks made payable to UUCB

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, March 26

FUNDRAISING EVENTS



THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH of BRUNSWICK
1 MIDDLE STREET
OPEN MIKE SIGNUP - 6:45 PM
OPEN MIKE START - 7:00 PM
FEATURED PERFORMER - 8:30 PM
SUGGESTED DONATION: \$8

BRIO!



Deb Hensley, Matt Loosigian & Martin Swinger

When you bring Deb Hensley, Matt Loosigian and Martin Swinger together, you get an amazing trio named BRIO! All songwriters, seasoned performers and improvisational vocalists, BRIO! guarantees an evening of lush harmonies, meaningful messages and inspired vocal improvisation with an eclectic mix of original songs, creative covers, audience participation and quirky musical daring-do. BRIO! present their beautifully blended voices to celebrate life as the hallmark of each joyfully surprising performance.

Friday Evening, March 18

Feature set preceded by the Open Mike

The Side Door Coffeehouse has been a fundraiser for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick since 1993. It is entirely volunteer run.

The use of the UU Church of Brunswick does not imply endorsement of the charter or opinions of contracted groups or individuals by the Church or its members.



HOLIDAY FAIR 2016

Many thanks go to **Catharine Chase** who has agreed to be the chair for the children's room for the 2016 Holiday Fair. Catharine and I are now looking for someone to volunteer to be **co-chair**. It would be great if that person would either be a parent or an older youth. If you are interested or want more information, please contact me via email at gkamilewicz@gmail.com or phone, 833-5125. I am also looking for a Fair co-chair to work with me. Don't be shy! Gretchen Kamilewicz, Fair 2016 Chairperson

END INEQUALITY TEAM

STUDY GROUPS: Our lively church community is expanding our knowledge about issues of inequality. We have over forty people involved in study groups in five areas: income inequality, healthcare, shelter and food, education and justice. If you wish to join a study group, it is not too late!

Please email the End Inequality Leadership Team: end.inequality123@gmail.com.

The groups have covered an impressive (maybe overwhelming!) amount of information by reading books and articles, researching websites and sharing what they know. This is being done with an eye toward specific understanding of what works in Maine and where we can gain the best leverage with our resources.

MAY 21 FORUM AND CELEBRATION: The study groups are beginning to prepare for our community wide event on Saturday morning, May 21. At that time, each group will share their journey, a summary of important points in their topic area and their recommendations to the church community about actions we can take, together and with others. In choosing actions, we will continue to be guided by our three

criteria: a) we feel passionately about it; b) we believe UUCB working alone or with others can have a measurable impact on it and c) we are willing to contribute talent, time or money to it.

OTHER ACTIVITIES: In partnership with the Adult Education Task Force, we had a book discussion on February 21 about Robert Reich's book [Beyond Outrage: What Has Gone Wrong With Our Economy and Our Democracy and How to Fix It](#). The forty attendees had lively discussions in small groups and large, facilitated by Hadley Horch. The book is clear and readable and builds a stunning case for how we got where we are and some ideas for measures we can take. If you wish to read the book, there is a copy in the UUCB library shelves you may sign out. Additionally, three DVDs of Reich's film "Inequality for All" will soon be available there as well. The EI Leadership Team is tentatively planning a candidates forum for the fall at which time questions about measures to address the roots of inequality could be posed.

Carol Evans



WOMEN'S ALLIANCE Tuesday, March 8

All women of UUCB and their friends are invited to attend the March meeting, to discuss the book [Waking Up White](#), by Debby Irving. The book is available in libraries, and local bookstores. We meet at 12 noon in the May Sarton Room.

We plan to devote the meeting to discussing the book, but please come even if you have not read it. Our goal is to explore our own feelings and experiences regarding the complex issues, historically and in the present, of race in America.

VEGAN SUNDAY-MARCH 20

All are welcome to join the Vegan Sunday potluck for a delicious plant-based meal on Sunday, March 20, at noon in Fellowship Hall. We enjoy eating tasty, nutritious meals and the camaraderie of other vegans and those who want to explore a plant-based diet as a pathway to better health for our bodies and our planet. Sorry, no drop-ins, but if you are planning to come, please RSVP to coordinator Pilar Tirado at tiradop@yahoo.com or 409-1537 and let her know by Thursday, March 17, what vegan dish you wish to bring.

MEN'S LUNCHEON Wed, March 30

These monthly fellowship lunches, which are held on the last Wednesday of each month with the exception of holidays. All men of the church are welcome. For details, contact Brad Mitchell, bmitch10@gmail.com, or Jim Michaud at michaudjim33@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP

SOUP FOR SYLVIA

What a smashing success! Thanks to all who brought food, helped set up and clean up, and, most importantly, joined us in welcoming Sylvia back to our pulpit.

CIRCLE SUPPERS CIRCLE 'ROUND AGAIN: MARCH 5, 6 OR 19



If you've ever wished for longer conversations than Sunday hospitality time allows, circle suppers, where groups of six to eight people share a potluck meal at someone's home, are for you. Says one avid circle supper goer, Steve Black, "The two circle suppers I attended gave me a wonderful chance to

get acquainted with our church community on a more personal level."

This March there are three circle "supper" dates planned: Saturday evenings, **March 5 and 19**, and vegan brunch, **Sunday, March 6**. If you've ever wondered about eating vegan, this brunch would be a good taste test and a chance to learn from the experts! To attend one of these meals, please contact Leigh Peranteau at leigh763@yahoo.com or 207-725-4874, or stop by the Visitor's Table to sign up. Your host will contact you with details.

YOU AND UU CLASS

Our next You and UU class is planned for **March 12 from 9:00 to 1:00**. This Saturday class is designed to introduce newcomers to Unitarian Universalism and UUCB. It is strongly recommended for anyone considering official membership. If interested in attending, or learning more about this class, please call the church office at 729-8515 or Vicki Simpson at 443-2248, or stop by the Visitor's Table on Sunday.



WHO ARE THOSE PEOPLE BEHIND THE VISITOR'S TABLE?

Co-Chair Andrea Sinclair:



My husband, Skip Brimlow, and I have been members of UUCB since 2004. We moved to Brunswick from Manchester, NH because we wanted to live in Maine, near the ocean, and Skip's daughter had recently moved to Brunswick. We had been longtime members of the UU church in Manchester so we knew this is where we would find a "beloved community and indeed we have!

I have been a member of the Membership Committee since I joined UUCB. I am drawn to helping folks new to our church feel welcomed and find opportunities to become connected and involved. I love being a part of helping our community to grow, strengthen, and thrive.

Co-Chair Vicki Simpson

Having been born in Bar Harbor, I like to consider myself a "native Mainer", but in truth I spent most of my childhood in Connecticut. However I convinced my Californian husband Hank to move to Bath in 1981 and we have lived there happily ever since. I have worked for over 40 years as an occupational therapist, primarily with children, and still love my job. We have 2 great children, Julia and John and feel very lucky that they are healthy and happily employed with work they enjoy.



Hank and I joined UUCB over 20 years ago and have enjoyed participating in many of its activities. For several years I was a part of the Properties Committee, then was a member of the Board, the church Moderator, and most recently co-chair of the Membership Committee (affectionately known as "Memcom"). I truly appreciate the fact that a church such as UUCB exists. It is the only church I have ever joined and I feel very fortunate to be a part of such a caring and warm community

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

We are so grateful that our semi-refreshed minister is back for a few months before the second half of her sabbatical. We welcome her input, wisdom and mostly, her wonderful smile and enthusiasm as we go about our church business!

The board has been busy working on a number of policies which will help us function more efficiently. As I wrote about before, we now have an amendment to the Safety Policy which declares our church a weapons free zone. It is sad that we have to officially say that, but also important. If you are in attendance at any program or service and see any evidence of a weapon, please report it immediately to one of the leaders, an usher, or person conducting the program. Other policies we are working on include co-sponsoring programs with other churches or non-profit organizations, bidding policy for large items/repairs, use of our AV services, dealing with disruptive behavior, and public use of the church's name by committees or members.

Our beautiful church needs to be kept secure! Here is one more reminder to be sure to double check all locks inside and outside the church if you are one of the last people leaving. Unfortunately, on too many occasions staff and/or members have found both the front and back doors unlocked when the church is not being used by any of us. Several area churches have been broken into and vandalized with valuables stolen. Before leaving, please check restrooms and any other open areas, and see that the office door and all doors into the RE area are locked. Especially check the rear exterior door, and wait to hear the lock click as you are setting the code to lock the front door. The Building and Grounds Committee is working hard to address these issues.

Thank you all for making our church such a caring, happy, vibrant oasis in this crazy world!

Mary Larson, Chair

BUILDING SAFETY

CHURCH-LAND SECURITY: A NOT-SO-HAPPY UPDATE



Various people have found both the front door and back door of our building unlocked on numerous occasions. We certainly don't want our new building damaged or things stolen from it. And we most especially do not want volunteers or staff to be surprised or harmed by walking into a building that is occupied by someone who should not be there. Please, please, please, for the safety of all and for the security of the beautiful new building we have created together, make sure the doors are locked behind you when you are the last to leave. Don't assume someone else has already done it.

- Check all areas including restrooms to see that they are empty
- Check the back door, especially if items have been taken out to compost or be put into the trash
- Make sure all doors into the RE area are locked
- Set the code on the front door, wait to hear the door click, then tug on it to make sure it is locked.
- And, remember to walk around the corner to tug on the back door as well.

BUILDING ACCESS CODE:

On Tuesday, March 1 at 10:30am, a new code will be in effect. The current access code will NO LONGER work.

The code change will NOT affect the key FOB (the little black disk). You can continue to use this method to gain access through the front door while keeping the building secure when you and your committee meet behind closed doors.

If you need the church doors to remain open because your committee is hosting a "public event" such as a concert, film, lecture, or church service; please contact the office for the code. If you need keys to access particular areas inside the church, again please contact the office.

CALLING ALL KEY HOLDERS:

Please contact the church office via email at uuburns@gwi.net or phone 207-729-8515 and let Shirley know which keys (number can be found on the key) and/or FOB you have. Updating the records as to who currently has keys and/or key fobs.

MARCH 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p>1</p> <p>10:30 Change Bldg. Code</p> <p>4:30 Membership: MSR</p> <p>5:00 Staff Mtg: WBR</p> <p>6:30 Worship : MSR</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10 Health Care Study Group: MSR</p> <p>6 RE Committee: MER</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10 Rental Committee: MSR</p> <p>12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship</p> <p>12:30 Chalice Circle: WBR</p> <p>6-8 Rental: MBR</p> <p>7 Choir: SAN</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Tedford Shelter Meal</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10 AA Rental: MBR</p> <p>Circle Suppers</p> <p>Office Closed</p>
		<p>6</p> <p>10 Church Service</p> <p>10:15 RE Classes</p> <p>11:30 New Comers Chat: WBR</p> <p>11:30 Adult RE</p> <p>12 Chalice Circle</p> <p>Vegan Circle Supper</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4 Working for Justice: MSR</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>8</p> <p>12 Women's Alliance: MSR</p> <p>4:30 Finance:: MSR</p> <p>6:30 Stories : WBR</p> <p>7:30 Pastoral Care: MSR</p>	<p>9</p> <p>3 Writers Group: MSR</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11 Abnaki: MSR</p> <p>12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship</p> <p>6-8 Rental: MBR</p> <p>7 Choir: SAN</p>
<p>13</p> <p>10 Church Service</p> <p>10:15 RE Classes</p> <p>12 Green Sanctuary: MSR</p> <p>Set Your Clocks Ahead!</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>15</p> <p>3 Tuesday Chalice Circle: WBR</p> <p>6:30 Board: MSR</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>  <p>12 Noon Deadline: Order of Worship And "This Week"</p> <p>6-8 Rental: MBR</p> <p>7 Choir: SAN</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7 Side Door (BRIO)</p> <p>5 Parish Messenger Deadline</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10 AA Rental: MBR</p> <p>Circle Suppers</p> <p>Office Closed</p>
 <p>20</p> <p>10 Church Service</p> <p>10:15 RE Classes</p> <p>12 Vegan Sunday: FEL</p> <p>1st Day of Spring</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 Stories : WBR</p>	<p>23</p> <p>3 Writers Group: MSR</p>	<p>24</p> <p>12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship</p> <p>6 Maundy Thursday Service: SAN</p> <p>6-8 Rental: MBR</p> <p>7 Choir: SAN</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30 Angel Cleaners</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10 AA Rental: MBR</p> <p>12-2 Connie Wurtz 90th Birthday Party</p> <p>Deadline to Register for Ysaye Workshop</p>
<p>27</p>  <p>10 Church Service</p> <p>10:15 RE Classes</p> <p>11:30 Public Forum</p> <p>1-6 Rental</p> <p>3 Daponte Concert</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6 RE Committee: MER</p>	<p>31</p> <p>12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship</p> <p>12:30 Chalice Circle Facilitators: WBR</p> <p>6-8 Rental: MBR</p> <p>7 Choir: SAN</p>	<p>Apr 1</p> <p>Tedford Shelter Meal</p>	<p>Apr 2</p> <p>10 AA Rental: MBR</p> <p>9:30-4:00 Ysaye Barnwell Workshop</p> <p>Office Closed</p>

ANNOUNCEMENT SUBMISSIONS/DEADLINES

If you have items to be placed in the "This Week" email, Announcement Insert (The green sheet) or the Order of Worship, please submit it to Shirley, the office administrator, by **Thursday at 12:00 pm**

If you want an announcement or article to appear in the monthly Parish Messenger, send it to the newsletter editor, Sue Michaud, on or before the **3rd Friday of each month** (usually). The deadline for the April Parish Messenger is **Friday, March 18th.** (michaud_susan@comcast.net)