

Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church
of Brunswick



June, 2017

Annual Meeting	14
Board Report	14
Calendar	15
Concerts	10-11
Concerts for a Cause: Jud	10
Easy Listening Music: Larry	11
Traditional: Roaring Forties	11
Deadlines	15
Food and Fellowship	12
Gurnet Road Task Force	13
Habitat for Humanity	9
How to Reach Us	2
Landscaping	4
Membership	4
Minister's Musings	3
Pledge Drive Update	9
Religious Education	2
Working for Justice	5-7
Charities with Soul	5-6
Furniture Drive	8
Guest at Your Table	5
Indigenous People Film Series	7
MUUSAN	5
Pride Parade	7-8

*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 Boutilier,
Director of Religious Education
Stephanie Bernier, Music Coordinator
Heidi Neufeld, Choir Director
Derek Herzer, Choir Accompanist
Shirley Bernier, Office Administrator
Tony Sulkoski, Sexton
Claire Curole, Ministerial Intern
Dan Ellis, Webmaster



SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10AM

Jun 4 “UUCB Makes a Difference: Past, Present, Future”

This service is a retrospective of past social justice work and a hopeful look to the future. And for the present? We will honor the work of the End Inequality Leadership Team and celebrate their merging with the Working for Justice Steering Group. Service led by End Inequality, working for Justice, and Rev. Stocker, with special guests! Music by Jean Lay and Jud Caswell.

Jun 11 Service of the Living Tradition/Flower Ceremony

Led by Rev. Stocker. We will mark major milestones within the congregation and welcome new members. In addition, we will hold our annual Flower Celebration, modeled after the ceremony Rev. Norbert Capek created in the mid-20th century. Bring a flower to represent your unique life and special gifts. We'll make a common bouquet from all the flowers. At the end of the service, take a different flower home to represent the gifts others in the congregation bring to your life. Music by the choir and Derek Herzer.

Jun 18 “White Supremacy is a hard Place to Start and a Worse Place to End” Rev. Sylvia Stocker

I've been contemplating the words, “white supremacy” – charged words to be sure, but I am finding them a helpful way to think about racism. What are the religious implications? Music by Derek Herzer

Jun 25 “The New Pioneers, Heroic Farming” Green Sanctuary

Faced with a longstanding trend of farmland being abandoned to encroaching forest, a collaborative effort by both public and private organizations is reversing this trend by making farmland available to those who are dedicated to the rigors of farming. Moreover, a variety of support groups are assisting small farm families with operational as well as marketing advice. Music by Ann Hartzler.

FROM OUR DRE

Another great program year has come to a close. Many thanks go out to all those who volunteer in the Religious Education (RE) program. If you attended the RE Celebration Service on May 21, you were able to get a sense of how many volunteers it takes to run our program. We have a congregation full of talented individuals with a wide range of skills. From folks who love to work with children and transmit an energy of enthusiasm and excitement in groups and workshops on Sunday morning, to those that enjoy behind the scenes work that requires organization and communication skills, we have a great crew of people who are interested in the spiritual growth and well-being of our communities' children and families. We're always looking to add to that crew of people- as the saying goes, "Many hands make light work"- so if you are reading this and are interested in serving the church through the RE program, please send me an email and we can work together to find out how you're interests and skills would best fit in the program. In particular, we are looking for people to serve as RE group Guides (working as part of a team

of people facilitate opening rituals and assist workshop leaders on Sunday morning- no prior preparation required) and workshop leaders (folks who paint, draw, act, build, write, play music, etc. who are willing to share their interest/talent/skill with our children one or two Sundays during the program year).

This year in RE we explored World Religions- Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam- through wisdom stories, picture books, and a variety of workshop activities including screenprinting t-shirts, building meditation benches, acting out a play, performing a dance, doing yoga, preparing Tedford meals, cider pressing, painting, and more. This coming year we will focus on Unitarian Universalist Identity and History and we will offer the Coming of Age program for 9-12th graders beginning in January. Stay tuned for more info on next year's program in the next newsletter.

I am excited for my upcoming Sabbatical beginning in September and will keep you informed of my plans as I solidify them over the summer. I have been doing church work most of my adult life and it will be a strange experience indeed to start relaxing instead of ramping up come September.

Blessings, *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 Boutilier, 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 Announcements and Dates

May 28: No RE programs, nursery will be unstaffed

Jun 04: Multi-Age Activity in RE area for any children in attendance ages 4-12

Jun 11: Intergenerational Flower Communion Service

Jun 18: Multi-Age Activity in RE area for any children in attendance ages 4-12

Jun 25-Sep 3: No Sunday RE programs

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

A sign on my lawn displays some of the values I cherish. One line on the sign says, “Black Lives Matter.” I want to remind myself of that truth every single day. For me the issue isn't just theoretical, but also personal. I worry about my black nieces and nephews whose degree of safety and opportunity are diminished, just because of skin color.

The Membership and Working for Justice committees are now asking the congregation to consider posting a Black Lives Banner outside our church. I support both committees in their request. For the Membership Committee, the banner would be a sign of welcome. For Working for Justice, the banner would represent one way our congregation promotes justice and equality. For me the banner also would remind us of anti-oppression work that needs addressing – work that is easy to ignore in Maine, one of the two whitest states in the nation (the contender being Vermont).

For me, hanging the banner would mean stepping up. First, it would mean stepping up to recognize publicly the sad truth in the United States – that black lives do *not* matter. Not as much as my life, anyway. Not as much as the lives of most Mainers in this very white state.

True, all lives matter, as some who object to the “black lives matter” slogan quickly point out. But if black lives mattered as much as mine, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar would not have felt compelled to write, “Like most African Americans, I experienced racism from the time I was a little boy and am sadly aware that I will undoubtedly continue to experience it until I die. I was called a nigger in high school and I was called a nigger when I played at UCLA and I was called a nigger last week by someone who didn't like an article I wrote... My Facebook page is a super-magnet for racial slurs. And that's how it feels when your skin is a different color from what is more acceptable: *you feel like a living, walking target and every day is hunting season.* (From *Writings on the Wall*; emphasis added.)

Everyone faces challenges and fears. But in the U.S., black people experience statistically poorer outcomes economically and educationally. They are more often targeted by police and with deadlier consequences. They are more often prosecuted and found guilty for the same kinds of crimes white people commit, and they receive longer prison sentences. By virtually every measure, American blacks are disadvantaged relative to American whites.

Hanging a Black Lives Matter banner could open us up for criticism, maybe even vandalism. Maybe risking hanging a banner would give us a tiny glimmer of the

kind of fear black people face and the kind of courage they have to summon *every single day* in this country.

Hanging the banner would mean stepping up to explore the kind of unearned privilege I enjoy simply because I look a certain way. True, privilege is awarded and denied for all sorts of reasons. I may enjoy more privilege because I am white, straight, cis-gender or middle-class, but I might enjoy less privilege because I am female, older, or fat. Regardless of the privilege I either enjoy or am denied, my soul grows larger when I increase my awareness of my circumstances and their implications.

Hanging the banner would mean stepping up to increase my compassion for *all* people our culture marginalizes: black people, native people, female people, LGBTQ people, immigrant people, poor people, old people, young people, Muslim people, homeless people – you name it. Human beings, including Unitarian Universalists, turn out to be very good at “othering” folks who seem a little different. Seeing a Black Lives Banner on the side of our building every time I arrive at church would help me to remember to open my arms instead of closing my heart.

As I write, I do not yet have a good sense of how the congregation as a whole feels about hanging a Black Lives Matter banner. (Our meeting to discuss the issue will happen on May 31, on the eve of our newsletter's release. The question will be on the agenda for the June 11 annual meeting.) But here is what I hope at a minimum: that we can express our thoughts and feelings, learn from one another, and, in making our decision, hold one another with the highest regard and deepest respect.

Blessings,
Sylvia



MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION CEREMONY

June is a month of celebration for many, including us here at UUCB. On **Sunday, June 11** we will welcome eight new members to UUCB with a special recognition ceremony during the service. They are: Stephen Loeb, Pilar Tirado, Jennifer Hicks, Elizabeth Bates, Joanne and Jonathan Allen, and Steven and Susan Bremner. We hope everyone will make a special effort to attend church on June 11 to help welcome our newest UUCB members!

NEWCOMER'S POTLUCK

On **Sunday, June 4th** we will host a potluck lunch in the sanctuary after church for everyone who asked to be put on our mailing list since last June (a total of 96 people in case you were wondering!). We're hoping to reach folks who may still be looking for ways to connect with the congregation, and to re-introduce ourselves to those we met briefly during the past year. If you receive an invitation from us, we hope you will join us.

SUMMER CIRCLE SUPPERS



Finally, on **Saturday, June 17**, we will have the first round of summer circle suppers. The second will take place **August 19**. Attending a circle supper is a great way to get to know each other better by sharing a meal in the comfort of someone's home. Look for the sign up table after church in the foyer if you'd like to host or attend a supper this summer.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Have you moved recently? Changed your email address or your phone number? If so, please stop by the visitor's table and check the UUCB directory to be sure these changes are in place. Shirley checks this directory from time to time and will enter any changes into her database.

Thank you to Cuffy Chase for donating some nice rocks for our church landscaping. Thanks also for the time and muscle power from the people who helped move these big rocks: Cuffy, Steve, and Cindy (right), Anne Merrifield, Cathy Meany, and Mike Michaud



WORKING FOR JUSTICE

JUNE CHARITY WITH SOUL



Our Free Services

Medical

- Adult primary care
- Preventive health screening
- Women's health
- Chronic disease management
- Specialty referrals

Dental

- Preventative care and cleanings
- X-rays
- Fillings
- Extractions

Community Prescription Assistance Program (CPAP)

- Help with free prescription medications



Serving low-income adults with no health or dental insurance living in the Midcoast region.

If you are an uninsured adult age 18-64 earning less than \$20,600 each year, give us a call today at **721-9277** to schedule an eligibility appointment.

We serve the communities of:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Arrowsic | Georgetown |
| Bailey's Island | Harpswell |
| Bath | Orr's Island |
| Bowdoin | Phippsburg |
| Bowdoinham | Topsham |
| Brunswick | West Bath |
| Durham | Woolwich |
| Freeport | |

Oasis Free Clinics

Call 721-9277 today to see if we are right for you.

**GUEST
AT YOUR
TABLE**



The UUSC Guest At Your Table contributions' total was **\$782.75**.

Many thanks to all who participated!

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

2017-2018 CHARITIES WITH SOUL

UUCB divides its weekly collection plate with charities selected annually by the congregation. This year, the nomination process ran for 3 weeks in April, when the congregation was invited to submit nominations for their favorite charities. Seventeen organizations were nominated and voted on in the first two weeks of May. One hundred six ballots were turned in.

UUCB COVENANT CHARITIES

UUCB has a covenant relationship with 6 charities that will receive funds each year:

- ◆ Habitat for Humanity/7 Rivers
- ◆ Midcoast Hunger Prevention
- ◆ Tedford Housing
- ◆ The Gathering Place
- ◆ Oasis Free Clinic
- ◆ Four Directions.

AND THE WINNER IS...

The remaining six charities were voted on and will fill out the 12 month fiscal year. Those six are, in order of most votes cast:

- 1) Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP)
- 2) Maine Family Planning
- 3) Doctors Without Borders
- 4) Boys to Men
- 5) Natural Resources Council of Maine
- 6) CHANS Hospice.

Thank you to all who participated in the nomination and ballot selection. The months for 2017-2018 will be assigned following approval of the list at annual meeting June 11.

Submitted by *Working for Justice Steering Group*

RE-LEARNING ABOUT MAINE'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

FILM AND DISCUSSION

Wednesday, June 28, 7-9pm, UUCB Sanctuary

Dawnland: Abanaki Creation Story (3 minutes)

Introduction to the Maine-Wabanaki
by Gkisedtanamoogk (17 minutes)

Wabanaki: A New Dawn (26 minutes)

This is the first of three Wednesday evenings in a summer film series planned to move our community beyond Columbus Day to a recognition and celebration of Indigenous Peoples.

The other evenings in the series are July 26 and August 16. Mark your calendars!

For more information, contact Cathey Cyrus



WORKING FOR JUSTICE



MUUSAN (Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network)

ANNUAL MEETING June 13, 2017

A treat was promised and a treat was given....for those fortunate to attend the June 13th MUUSAN meeting!

Tom Allen, former Congressman for Maine's First District, human rights and anti war advocate/activist and current president/CEO of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, was available and willing to return to Maine to deliver our keynote address. What terrific luck!

Tom is a serious yet funny, animated, high energy, engaging person. Most impressive, he is a **DO**'er...and a creative one at that! The many strategic International problem solving examples he shared with us were inspiring. He urged *us* to **DO** and to be persistent and relentless in our doing!

Tom *was* the highlight, but the remainder of the day was truly inspiring as well. When asked... in which of the many justice/advocacy events; protests, testimony giving, committee hearings, government representative contacts, meetings, etc. etc. etc.... they had participated during this past year, **many** hands were raised.

With a sense of pride to carry us into the afternoon and full of delicious soup and salad, all prepared by

MUUSAN Steering Committee members, we broke into our small focus groups: Health Care, Democracy and Climate Change. We returned to the larger group, each reporting our future intentions for specific action/advocacy.

Before ending our day, excitement was created by the announcement of a new focus group...Immigration and Race (not exactly sure of the title of this new group) What an opportune time to consider becoming a member of MUUSAN! Really, these meeting are interesting, friendly, active and you will leave knowing you are apart of something that honestly *does* make a difference!

The next MUUSAN meeting is Saturday, July 8th...but if that is unthinkable, coming in the middle of our glorious Maine summer, an excellent start could be attending the September meeting.

I would love to give you a nudge and information!

skennedy@hgfx.com 373-0578

Sue Kennedy

(One of the UUCB, MUUSAN representatives)

PRIDE PARADE 2017

JUNE 17 @ 12 NOON

MUUSAN invites you to join in a joyful public witness for our **First**, **Second** and **Sixth** UU Principles!



Looking for volunteers to march with the UUCB banner and MUUSAN in the 2017 Pride Parade on June 17. We'd love to have a good number from UUCB this year. The photo on the next page is the group of Maine UU's who marched in last year's parade. Can you find Jim Michaud with the UUCB banner?

PRIDE is a fully-inclusive, safe, fun intergenerational event. Families and individuals of all ages are welcome. The PRIDE Festival runs all afternoon in Deering Oaks for those who wish to stay and play.

Marchers should be lined up at by 11:30am near Monument Square (exact location TBA). The parade starts at 12 noon.

For more information contact Sue Kennedy or Jim Michaud (michaudjim33@gmail.com).

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

FURNITURE DRIVE: TO HELP NEW MAINERS SETTLING IN OUR COMMUNITY

Saturday, June 17, 2017, 9-12pm

Organized by MidCoast New Mainers Support Group

A collaborative of members of congregations from:

Beth Israel Congregation, Bath	First Parish UCC, Brunswick
Brunswick Friends Meeting, Topsham	Phippsburg UCC
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brunswick	Unitarian Universalist Church, Brunswick
The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, Topsham	

We CAN ONLY accept items in very good condition, clean and of high quality - ready to help create a welcoming and comfortable home.

Beds (double, full, or smaller preferred)	Dressers
Dining room tables	Coffee tables
Dining chairs	End tables
Bedside tables	Working lamps w/shades
Area Rugs	
Small couches, love-seats, and other living room seating	

We CANNOT accept items that are extremely heavy, stained, soiled, excessively worn, full of pet hair, ripped, broken or show any trace of bedbugs including:

Items from smoking households; Used sofa beds; Wooden bed frames; Press or composite board items; Entertainment centers, armoires and china cabinets; TV's; Appliances and built-in microwaves; Bedding; Cribs and other baby furniture; King-sized beds; Benches; Outdoor or wicker furniture; Silverware or bake-ware; Curtains or curtain hardware; Slip covered items (unless the item beneath the cover is in excellent condition).

Pick up and drop off information coming soon. In the meantime, contact Sue Kennedy or Cathey Cyrus with questions.



ANNUAL PLEDGE DRIVE

AN ENORMOUS THANK YOU FROM THE PLEDGE DRIVE TEAM

After conversations with trustees, staff, our minister and an independent consultant, our team settled on a theme for this year's drive: "Living Our Values." We ran a proactive drive, with a mail campaign, a kickoff party and ongoing church-wide communication via emails and newsletter articles.

Eighteen volunteer canvassers attended a half-day training and then connected with dozens of members and friends. We heard from members who value and support the church, including strong statements by Trustees over two Sundays in May. As the campaign drew near its end, however, we were still more than \$20,000 from our goal of **\$238,000**.

You heard these entreaties and responded. Current members sent in promised pledges, new members pledged for the first time, and some of you even went back and increased your pledges, resulting in a new total (as of 5/17/17) of **\$236,000!** Based on this generosity, the

Trustees were able to approve a budget that is as robust as we all had hoped, and the Congregation will vote on that budget at the Annual Meeting June 11.

Our thanks to all who worked so hard on this year's drive, from the entertainers and helpers at the kickoff party, those who gave testimony, our newsletter editor, our volunteer canvassers, our office administrator, and mostly, to all of you who pledged. Your generosity allows us to continue to live our values.

The 2017-2018 Pledge Drive Team
Carol Evans, Cindy Parker, Steve Loeb, and Jenn Hicks



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MAY WALK

WE DID IT!!!

Our church raised \$6,563 for Habitat for Humanity, \$563 over our goal of \$6000. Many thanks to all of you who sponsored our seven walkers or Team UUCB. A special thanks to our seven walkers: Carol Briggs, Betsy Williams, Caroline Evans, Anne Spencer, Gretchen Kamilewicz, Ed McCartan, and Catharine (Cuffy) Chase. We do appreciate your support in helping families with limited incomes become successful homeowners.



Back: Caroline Evans, Ed McCartan, Betsy Williams, Cuffy Chase
Front: Gretchen Kamilewicz, Carol Briggs, Anne Spencer

UUCB CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE

UUCB Concerts for a Cause is pleased to present our own JUD CASWELL for its last concert of the 2016-2017 season on June 10.

Jud Caswell is a little bit like a one-man folk festival. You've got your banjo picking, your Irish drinking songs, a rack of acoustic instruments, and a deep catalog of award-winning originals. He's often compared to James Taylor and David Wilcox, but his songs draw on a long musical history and wide-ranging influences from jazz and Piedmont blues to contemporary folk and rock.

Jud is currently celebrating the release of his sixth collection, "Watch The Fall." Early listeners have called it "homey and groovy and uplifting and thoughtful" -- a "celebration of life, love, family, and all that is wonderful about midcoast Maine."

Jud is a lifelong musician, but it wasn't until 2004 that he was able to pursue music full-time. By 2008, Jud had made a name for himself on the national folk circuit, playing folk festivals from Texas to Oregon and winning some of the best songwriting contests in the country. His 2007 release "Blackberry Time" was a folk DJ favorite.



Since that time, he has continued to pursue music full time as a performer, teacher and recording engineer. In addition to his acoustic 6 and 12 string guitars, Jud plays banjo, cittern, and whistle at his many Irish gigs. He runs a monthly songwriter's circle, offers "musical story times" at local libraries, and leads songwriting programs at local elementary schools. Jud is also an in-demand producer at his own "Frog Hollow Studio" in Brunswick, where he records some of the best songwriters in the state.

REVIEWS:

"Jud Caswell is much more than a great singer and guitar player, Jud's songs take you into the storyteller's world with clear images and characters that come to life for the listener." - David Wilcox

"Clever, well-groomed lyrics, percussive guitar playing and a powerful yet tender voice... reminded me of Ellis Paul in intensely personal songs that offer slices of life and lovely imagery..." - Dirty Linen

"Jud Caswell is an enormously talented lyricist, composer, performer, and producer. It's only a matter of time before he's discovered by the rest of the world; you should discover him now." - Mainetoday.com

**Come show your support for Jud
and join in the excitement of
raising money for outreach.**

**Adults: \$12 in advance, \$15 at door
Students & Children: \$6**

Available at church services,
at the church office,
Gulf of Maine Books or
brownpapertickets.com.

OTHER CONCERTS YOU MAY ENJOY



Easy Listening

WITH LARRY LEMMEL

1st and 3rd Thursdays
of Every Month

2:00 - 3:30 in the Sanctuary

Internet performances of great classical music
No lectures; comments and questions welcome
Drop in any time; stay as long as you like

ADMISSION FREE - PLEASE INVITE FRIENDS

No Side Door Coffeehouse This Month

Instead the following concert is being brought to you by Charlie Ipcar, a Side Door regular who also sings with Roll and Go.

The Roaring Forties

Storming in from Australia



The Roaring Forties is a Sydney based folk group that has been entertaining audiences since 1988. Powerful individual singers, the group has a formidable repertoire of traditional and trad-style contemporary songs. They have a lengthy list of themes: sea shanties, whaling songs, forebitters, work songs, mining songs, union songs, bush songs, songs of Australian history, protest songs, humorous songs, god-bothering songs, drinking songs – you name it!

Opening Set by *Roll and Go*

Downeast sea music group based in Portland

Friday, June 16 @ 7pm

UU Church of Brunswick

\$12 in advance, \$15 at the door,
Children under 12 half price.

FMI: 737-2187

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

RESERVATIONS FOR EIGHT

Monday, June 12

Carol Drake and Sue Ellen Damour have organized the next set of “Dinner for 8” groups, and invite you to sign up for the dinner that suits your fancy.

This time all the dinners will take place on the same day (June 12) and there will be five restaurants to choose from.

Great Impasta	5:30 pm
Captain Mike's	5:30 pm
Pedro OHara	5:30 pm
Richards	5:30 pm
Dolphin Marina	6:00 pm



Sign ups will be available Sundays after church. Carol & Sue Ellen will make the reservations. All you need to do is show up at the scheduled time.

PLANT-POWERED POTLUCK GROUP

Sunday, June 18



The Plant-Powered Potluck group invites you to join them on Sunday, June 18, at 12 noon at Buena Loco Restaurant, 240 US Route 1, Falmouth.

Each month during the summer, we will gather at a different restaurant to enjoy plant-based foods.

We more than welcome anyone who is interested in attending.

If you are interested, please contact Jessica Tracy by Thursday, June 15. She can be reached at 207-729-7294 or jtracy@myfairpoint.net.

MEN'S LUNCHEON

Wed, May 31 & Jun 28

These monthly fellowship luncheons, 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. The May 31st luncheon will be at the **Seadog**.

There will also be a potluck for newcomers after the worship service on June 4h and a circle supper on Saturday, June 17.
(See the Membership article on page 5.)

GURNET ROAD TASK FORCE REPORT

The Gurnet Road property was purchased in 2004 for \$243,000 from contributions with the intention that the land would be used to build a church. Following the fire in 2011, the congregation voted to rebuild our new church at the site of the demolished church and sell the Gurnet Road property. In a congregational vote at the Annual Meeting of 2012, the congregation authorized the Board to put the property on the market for a price no less than \$200,000.

In 2014, the Board was approached by the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust with an offer of \$125,000. At a special meeting in November 2014, the congregation authorized the board to negotiate the sale of the property to the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust for no less than \$125,000 to protect it for traditional use by wormers, clambers, and general public access. The sale was completed in June, 2016.

Following closing costs and realtor fees (\$10,500) as well as the loan repayment which paid off the remaining debt for this present church(\$18,000), we realized proceeds of **\$97,500**.

In the fall of 2016, a Task Force was formed to make a recommendation to the congregation on the use of this money. After study, conversations with some of the original donors, and long discussions, the Task Force along with our minister, Sylvia, worked to address concerns that the church “send out” a portion of the proceeds to the community, ensure the long-term health of the building and complete a number of projects identified in our building.

To address the goal for outreach to the community, the Task Force came to the conclusion that by reducing the approved sale price from \$200,000 to \$125,000, the church had already made a significant contribution to the area community. Preserving the land through the Land Trust, the sale guaranteed public access and resulted in economic benefits to those who make their living by having water access.

To address current building needs as proposed by church committees, The Task Force recommended to the Board of Trustees, and the Board has endorsed that the Gurnet Road proceeds of **\$97,500** be used in the following ways:

\$75,000 Invest the funds and create a reserve for long term maintenance of the building

\$22,500 Address current needs as proposed by church committees or members.
Meetings will be held in the fall for input. Examples could include:

Resolution of property issues with neighbors

AV equipment for the Religious Education area

Restoration of memorial stained glass windows

Sanctuary enhancement (seasonal banners, system for hanging display items for our services and/or lighting for theatrical events increasing rental possibilities)

Gallery lighting for art displays

MOTION (to be voted on at the June 11 Annual Meeting): **To approve the allocation of net proceeds from the sale of UUCB’s Gurnet Road Property towards (1) a Reserve Fund for long term maintenance of our Church building (\$75,000) and (2) building completion and enhancement projects (\$22,500) as recommended by the Board of Trustees.** Informational meetings will be held on Sunday, June 4 at 9 AM and Wednesday, June 7 at 7 PM.

Task Force: *Maryli Tiemann, Cindy Parker, Dave Damour, Mary Larson*

BOARD REPORT

This is a busy time for your board! And our church!

I send a huge THANK YOU to all who have come forward in supporting the Pledge Drive. As you have seen from other articles in this newsletter, we are almost at our goal, and will be able to meet our budget needs for next year. Our church is such a vibrant, active community, and we all want it to be able to continue being here for us for services as well as community involvement!

Our ANNUAL MEETING is coming up soon, and we count on you to be there. There are many important decisions being made about our next year as well as about the future of our building and actions. Your voice is needed. We will be hosting informational meetings about the Annual Meeting agenda on Sunday, June 4 at 9 AM (before the service), and Wednesday, June 7 at 7 PM. These are opportunities for you to ask more questions and discuss the issues.

One of the big decisions to be made is in regards to the disposition of the proceeds from the sale of the Gurnet Road property last June. These funds are for capital expenses only, and cannot be applied for our operating budget as they are not ongoing for future years. A task force, the Building and Grounds Committee, and numerous individuals have voiced their opinions on this

subject. More meetings for your input are planned for the fall. We welcome your involvement.

The board is still working on more policies – and the policies for review remain available for you on the bulletin board opposite the “coffee window” as well as electronically. If you would like an electronic version, please contact me at marniel@windstream.net.

The board also wants you to know how thrilled we are to be able to provide a well-earned Sabbatical time for Nicole. Although we will miss her stories and her great smile in our services as well as her wonderful programming for our children, we know that sabbatical time will give her renewed energy and information that we will share when she returns. Enjoy every minute, Nicole!

Lastly, I want to thank all of you for helping so very much in the past two years when I served as Chair of the Board. Sylvia’s Sabbatical time was a challenge for me as a new chair, but you all made it work! I truly love our church and it has been an honor to be the Board Chair. I will remain on the board for the next two years before my term ends.

Mary Larson, Chair, Board of Trustees

ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JUNE 11 AT 11:30 AM

Please join us to determine:

- Budget for 2017-18
- Officers and new members of the Board of Trustees
- Charities With Soul for 2017-18
- UUA Declaration of Conscience
- Recommendation for a Black Lives Matter Banner
- Disposition of the Proceeds from the sale of the Gurnet Road property

Information meetings on these concerns will be held:

- Wednesday, May 31 – 6:30 PM – Black Lives Matter Banner and issues ONLY
- Sunday, June 4 – 9 AM – Informational meeting and questions
- Wednesday, June 7 – 7 PM – Informational meeting and questions

JUNE 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
SAN = Sanctuary FEL = Fellowship Hall WBR = Wendall Berry Room MSR = May Sarton Room MBR = Merrymeeting Bay Room			PEN = All RE Space HIL = Hildebrant Room CAR = Carson Room MAN= Mandela Room CL= Curtis Library				
			May 31 12 Men's Luncheon: Seadog 3 Writers Group: MSR 6 Informational Mtg: Black Lives Matter: SAN & FEL	1 10 Rental Committee: MSR 2 Easy Listening Music: SAN 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 7 Choir: SAN	2 Teford Shelter Meal 5:30 Communication Workshop: SAN	3 8 Communication Workshop: SAN 10 AA Rental: MBR 10 Chalice Circle Facilitators: Rev Stocker's Office	
4 9 Informational Mtg: MSR 10 Church Service 11:30 Newcomers Potluck: SAN 5 Rental: Dharma	5 Office Closed	6 4 Membership: MSR 5 Staff: WBR 7 Worship: MSR 7 RE: MBR	7 11 Rental: Meditation: WBR 12:30 Chalice Circle: WBR 4 Working for Justice : off site 7 Informational Mtg: MSR	8 10 Rental Committee: MSR 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 7 Indigenous People Day Group: MBR 7 Choir: SAN	9 4 Art Walk: SAN, FEL, MSR 4 End Inequality: MSR	10 10 AA Rental: MBR 7:30 Concerts for a Cause: JUD CASWELL Office Closed	
11 10 Church Service-Flower Communion Welcome New Members 11:30 Annual Meeting: SAN Office Closed	12 5:30 Reservations for 8: Great Impasta, Capt Mike's, Richard's Pedro O'Hara 6:00 Reservations for 8: Dolphin Office Closed	13 10 Chalice Circle: WBR 4:30 Finance: MSR 6:30 Stories with Soul: WBR 7:30 Pastoral Care: MSR	14 3 Writers Group: MSR	15 12 Wabanaki REACH: MSR 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 2 Easy Listening Music: SAN 7 Choir Party: Heidi's	16 7 Rental-Concert: The Roaring Forties	17 10 AA Rental: MBR Circle Suppers Office Closed	
18 10 Church Service 12 Plant Powered Lunch: Bueno Loco 12 Chalice Circle: WBR Office Closed	19 Office Closed	20 9 Rental-: PEN 2 Savvy Caretakers: WBR 6:30 Board: MSR 7 Snow Bird Chalice Circle: WBR	21 11 Rental-Meditation: WBR 6 Chalice Circle: WBR	22 9:30 Memoir Writing: WBR 10:30 Building & Grounds: MSR 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship	23 5 Parish Messenger Deadline	24 10 AA Rental: MBR Office Closed	
25 10 Church Service Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27 6:30 Stories with Soul: WBR 6:30 Concert Committee: MSR	28 12 Men's Luncheon: TBA 3 Writers Group: MSR 7-9 Indigenous Peoples Day Film : SAN	29 Office Closed	30 1-5 Rental- Wedding Prep	July 1 10 AA Rental: MBR 12-5 Rental-Wedding: SAN & KT Office Closed	

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 see page 5 to see when the deadlines are during the Holiday season.

If you want an announcement or article to appear in the monthly Parish Messenger, send it to the newsletter editor, Sue Michaud (michaud_susan@comcast.net) on or before the **3rd Friday of each month (usually)**. The deadline for the July Parish Messenger is **Friday, June 23rd—the 4th Friday**.