**Gun Safety Education and Awareness:**

In 2021, members of UUCB and the community joined in the nine year anniversary since the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in December 2012. Several worship services included mention of the toll gun violence is taking in our state and in our country. We welcomed guest speaker, Rev. Jane Field who did a moving service just two days before we held our annual candlelight vigil.

In June 2021 members of UUCB and others joined in a Wear Orange - National Gun Violence Awareness Day - gathering on the mall in downtown Brunswick.

As of this writing, gun violence is now the leading cause of death in children and adolescents, aged 0-19. A 30% increase since 2019-2020 These deaths include incidents of suicide, accidental shootings and homicides, with homicides outpacing the other two categories. In partnership with the Maine Gun Safety Coalition, as well as the newly formed Maine Gun Safety Caucus, and with resources from Everytown for Gun Safety, we continue to offer education and awareness of this public health crisis.