Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick

SEPTEMBER 2026

UUA Certified Welcoming Congregation

OUR MISSION

To be a spiritual community,
To welcome all,
To nurture one another,
To work for justice,
And to care for the earth.

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Kharma Amos
Minister

Rev. Sylvia Stocker
Minister Emerita

Toben Cooney-Callnan
Lifelong Spiritual Formation Director

Will Bristol
Director of Music

Shirley Bernier
Office Administrator

Tony & Mary Sulkoski
Sextons

CONTACT US
www.uubrunswick.org

(mail) PO Box 129
Brunswick, ME 04011

1 Middle Street, Brunswick

(207) 729-8515

administrator@uubrunswick.org

Rev. Kharma Amos, Minister

Office Hours: Tues-Fri, 10-4

Services in September

THEME: BEGINNINGS

September 6th - Beginnings: What came first--the chicken or the egg?
Led by Rev. Dr. Kharma Amos; Music by Will Bristol

As we initiate a new theme of reflection in anticipation of beginning a new church year, we "Begin" again to think about Beginnings. What is a beginning from one perspective can be an ending from another, and life certainly seems more cyclical than linear. The question of what comes first - the chicken or the egg - can be a spiritual question. Let's reflect on it together.

September 13th - Homecoming & the Re-Weaving of Community
Led by Rev. Dr. Kharma Amos; Music by Will Bristol and the UUCB Pop Up Choir

Please join us as we celebrate Homecoming, the official start of our next church year. In this intergenerational worship, we begin to re-weave the fabric of our community with love, creativity, and intention. See special instructions* about a re-weaving ritual that we will engage in together as a part of this service.

September 20th - It's Never Too Late To Begin (Again)
Led by Rev. Dr. Kharma Amos; Music by Will Bristol, Jazmin DeRice MIller, and the UUCB Band and Choir

Beginnings can sometimes feel like they are the purview of the young -- children, young lovers, those just beginning to imagine what their lives will hold. But, there is no aging out of beginning new things! There is no "too late" to do things differently or learn something new. Join us as we reflect on the opportunities we have at every age and stage of life to engage the spiritual practice of beginnings.

September 27th - The Art of Falling Forward
Led by Jeremy Litchfield; Music by Will Bristol

New beginnings rarely announce themselves. Sometimes the one that changes everything arrives as a small, hard choice we almost decide to skip. Jeremy Litchfield will share a story of one such choice, an unlikely friendship built across a prison wall, and what it has taught him about taking the first step and learning to fall forward.

Bio: Jeremy Litchfield was born in Brunswick, graduated from Brunswick High School and Bowdoin College, and returned home in 2009 after 10 years in Washington, DC. He lives here with his wife and creative partner, Becca, and is the Vision Steward of Heart-Strong, a Maine nonprofit built on the belief that the world works better when more of us are pulled by love than controlled by fear. A lifelong runner, storyteller, and now children's book author, he has been falling forward most of his life.

Minister's Message

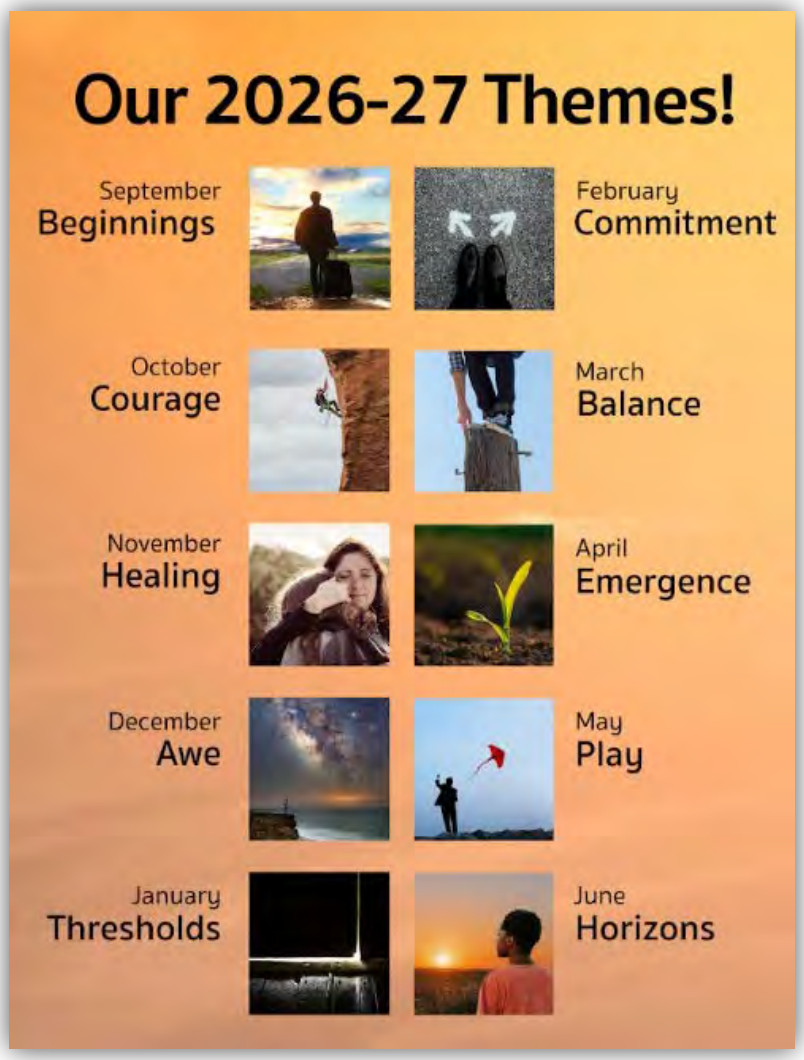
Spirit of Life: Endings and/or Beginnings

I wonder if you are viewing the impending change in seasons as the "End of Summer" or the "Beginning of Fall"? Is it the conclusion of something over or a subtle shift into something new emerging? The answers, of course, depend upon our perspective (which even for a single person can change many times throughout a day). And, as in all things, there isn't only one correct answer.

Rev. Dr. Kharma Amos, Minister

September (for those oriented to the academic- or more obscure UU-year) is both the conclusion of the more relaxed time of Summer and the initiation of a new focused time of engagement, learning, growth, and purpose. **September 13th, we'll celebrate HOMECOMING! Please join us!** *Even better, consider inviting a friend that you think would benefit from being a part of our community.*

We will soon kick-start our spiritual formation programming and welcome both children and adults to begin a new year with thoughtful intention. Our board and committees begin again with new members and new visions, as well as new energy for continuing projects in progress. The choir reconvenes with many of the same, but also different voices; and as our instrumentation changes, so does the music we are able to create together. And—so importantly in these turbulent times, we recommit ourselves to acts of justice and compassion as we re-engage "Working for Justice" individually and together, as a congregation and with our community partners.



The "Beginning of the church year" is a wonderful opportunity to be intentional about how you want to connect and engage this year with your spirit, and with our spiritual community. Please be in contact with me (minister@uubrunswick.org) if you think I could be helpful as you discern your involvement this year, or at any time. For myself, I'm very excited to be back with you, energy replenished and heart-full. I look forward to all of the ways we will experience life together this church year.

Blessings,

Kharma

A Note from the Music Director

Dear UUCB,

The first worship theme of our 2026-2027 church year is *Beginnings* for this month of September. Below are some ways you can engage with the musical community of UUCB if you would like to begin again or for the very first time in music. Please email me at music-director@uubrunswick.org if you would like to explore any of these following options.

Will Bristol
Music
Director

*Join the **UUCB choir!—**rehearsals are from 7-8:30pm in the sanctuary every Thursday (with a few exceptions) All experience levels are encouraged as long as you are willing to learn.

*Join the **pop-up choir**—The pop-up choir meets every 2nd Sunday at 9am on these mornings to rehearse right before the service. Practice tracks will be sent out early in the preceding week so that you can have some idea of the music before arriving. All experience levels are encouraged.

*Join the **drumming circle—**this group meets every 3rd Friday from 5-7pm. This group incorporates those from the greater community with those from our church thanks to the co-facilitation of John Kootz and Susie Hanley. All experience levels are encouraged.

*Join the **recorder ensemble—**This group meets in the Youth Group Room from 11:20am-12pm following worship services on the first Sunday of the month. All experience levels are encouraged.

*Join the **community sings at UUCB**—the schedule of these are yet to be determined but I am building an email list that combines folks interested in protest singing with those looking for community song circles. All experience levels are encouraged.

*Join the **4th Sunday all-stars**—this group is open to children at heart and meets every 4th Sunday of the month following worship from 11:20am-12pm in the Youth Group Room. All experience levels are encouraged.

*Join the **intergenerational orchestra**—which will begin rehearsing for a December worship service a few Sundays before. All experience levels are encouraged.

*Volunteer for the **side door coffeehouse**—join the volunteer crew for the side door coffeehouse—a monthly community coffeehouse that combines an open mic set with a set by a featured performer that happens every 2nd Friday from 7-9:30pm. Although this isn't a music group, this could be another way to engage with the musical community at UUCB. The sign up page for volunteer roles is found here.

*Build **your own group** that has the mission of providing music for worship. This could be a vocal group, a band, or any combination thereof. All experience levels are encouraged in this endeavor and I am willing to pair people together and assist with building.

A new staff member in our midst!

Thanks to the budget raised for 2026-2027, Max Cloutier will now be joining us in the new position of Lead AV Tech beginning this month. Max will run the church's soundboard and livestream, oversee the volunteers working in the booth and more! As we continue to stream to offsite locations and have different sound needs for the livestream versus the sanctuary, it will be very helpful to have someone poised to take this on along with other challenges. I hope you will give Max a warm welcome when you see him around as he finds his way into this role!

More about Max (in his own words):
Max is a Sound Engineering graduate from Plymouth State University (PSU), and long time musician and music lover. Born and raised in Maine, he has attended and assisted with many a concert. He looks forward to working with the community and being part of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick team.

A Note from the Music Director

Side Door Coffeehouse

The Side Door Coffeehouse is a venue for local musicians and others (professional and amateur) to share their talents, and for residents and visitors of the Midcoast community to enjoy great entertainment and conversation in a relaxed setting. Organized by a group of volunteers from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick, the Side Door Coffeehouse operates on the second Friday of every month except August.

Admission is $12 for adults and free for children 17 and under.

The Friday, September 11th installment will feature:

- **Open Mic signup at 6:45 pm**
- **Open Mic at 7:00**
- **Kat Logan—8:30-9:30 pm.**

A Side Door favorite, Kat Logan is a singer-songwriter and visual artist from Wiscasset who has been performing throughout Maine and New England for more than 30 years. In addition to having a stunningly pure soprano voice, she is a multi-instrumentalist, equally at home on the piano, guitar, and accordion.. She plays and sings a variety of music, ranging from Celtic traditional, blues and 70's rock, americana and folk, jazz standards and originals. Moreover, Kat exudes a warmth that is enveloping.

She began her music career as a church organist and choir director, having studied organ with Douglas Rafter of Portland and University of Southern Maine Music Department. She came to folk music in the early '90s and has been playing and recording with many of the Maine folk scene artists. She was included on several of Gordon Bok's CDs and did the art work for the cover of his CD, "Other Eyes." In 2012, Logan was on a Grammy nominated CD, called "Singing Through the Hard Times," a tribute to the late Utah Philips.

As a musician, Logan has played with many different groups, including her first band, Driftwood (who mostly covered Kate Wolf}, and Meteora with Jim Loney and Will Brown). She now performs as a solo musician, accompanying her own tunes and her favorite covers.

Listen to samples of Kat Logan's music:
Moments
Kitchen
I Wish You Love

From the Lifelong Spiritual Formation Director

Adult Spiritual Formation

Toben Cooney-Callnan
Director of Lifelong Spiritual Formation

Adult Spiritual Formation Small Group Ministry

Love at the Center: This Year's UUA Common Read

This church year, UUCB will be exploring *Love at the Center: Unitarian Universalism's Living Tradition*, the UUA Common Read for 2026–27.

Love at the Center invites us to consider what it means to make love a guiding force in our faith and our lives. The book explores how our Unitarian Universalist values call us toward deeper connection, spiritual growth, community, justice, and transformation—and asks us to consider what it looks like to put those values into practice.

Copies of *Love at the Center* will be available to borrow from the Adult Formation Library. The Director of Lifelong Spiritual Formation also has copies available for purchase for those who would like their own book. The book is also available for purchase through inSpirit, the UUA Bookstore. inSpirit, the UUA Bookstore

Small Group Discussions Beginning in October

Beginning in October, UUCB will offer small group gatherings connected to the Common Read. These gatherings will use the UUA's Small Group Discussion Guides for Adults, which draw on *Love at the Center* and the Rings of Love model. The Rings of Love offers different lenses for noticing how love moves through our lives: the love within us, between us, among us, beyond us, and the love that holds all that is. Together, we will explore themes including interdependence, pluralism, equity, transformation, generosity, and justice.

These groups will offer a chance to reflect on the readings, listen, and have meaningful conversations with one another about what it means to put love at the center of our spiritual lives and our community.

More information dates, times, and registration will be coming soon.

Chalice Circle Registration Is Now Open!

Registration for Session 1 of our UUCB Chalice Circles is now open from August 23rd-September 15th.
Chalice Circles are small groups that gather regularly for deep listening, reflection, meaningful conversation, and connection. They are a chance to explore life's big questions, deepen spiritual practice, build relationships across the congregation, and put UU values into action through service.

Chalice Circles are open to all UUCB members and friends age 18 and older. No advance preparation is needed, and trained facilitators guide each gathering. You can register online or by seeing one of the Chalice Circle organizers stationed at the Visitor's Table on Sunday mornings after the service.

If you are looking for a way to connect more deeply with the UUCB community this year, consider joining a Chalice Circle!

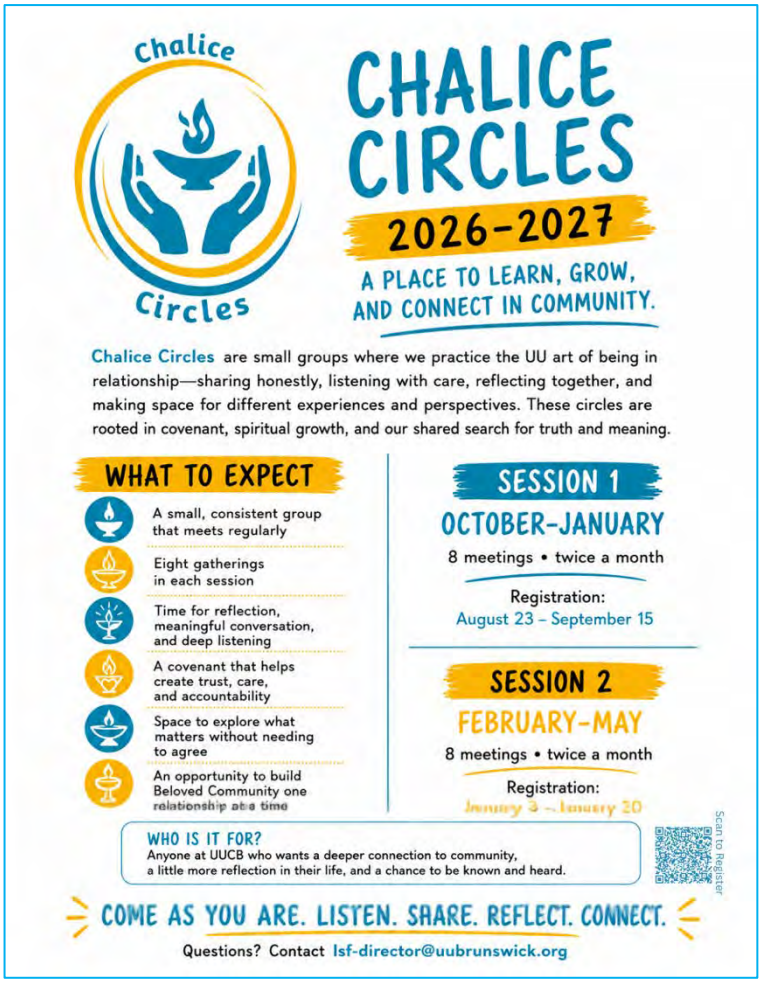
From the Lifelong Spiritual Formation Director

Children's Spiritual Formation

A New Year of Children's Spiritual Formation

A new church year is beginning, and Children's Spiritual Formation is getting ready for another year of learning, growing, connecting, and having fun together!

This year, **all Children's Spiritual Formation groups will be piloting the UUA's new Woven Faith curriculum**. Woven Faith gives children and youth opportunities to explore UU faith through stories, activities, conversation, reflection, and community. Each group will use the curriculum in ways that are appropriate for their age and stage while sharing a common framework throughout the program.



There will also be more opportunities for children and youth to gather together across age groups. On the **last Sunday of most months**, everyone will come together for an all-ages **Children's Chapel**. This year's Children's Chapel will center around the **Rings of Love**, based on the UU common read, *Love at the Center*.

The Rings of Love explore different ways love shows up in our lives and communities: **Love Within Me, Love Between Us, Love Among Us, Love Beyond Us,** and **Love That Holds Us**. These lessons offer opportunities for children to explore love as both a spiritual practice and a way of living UU values.

Save the Dates!

September 13 – Children and youth will kick off the new church year by joining the congregation for the **Intergenerational Ingathering Service**.

September 20 – The first **Children's Spiritual Formation meeting** of the year! Groups will begin meeting and getting to know the new Woven Faith curriculum.

September 27 – The first **all-ages Children's Chapel** of the year, bringing children and youth together for a special time of learning, connection, and community.

Registration Is Open!

Registration for Children's Spiritual Formation is now open! All families with children and youth from **Nursery through high school who regularly attend UUCB are asked to register each child** for the coming church year. Having current registration information helps make sure that the program is prepared to welcome and support every child and youth who participates.

Families new to the program are warmly welcome! Registration and more information can be found on the UUCB Children & Youth Spiritual Formation page.

From the Board of Trustees

THE boat - Nathaniel at the helm.

Since the Board did not meet in August, I have no pressing news to convey to you. So, I will regale you with tales of my summer fun. I was lucky enough to spend three weeks in upstate New York with Jean, our two kids (Nathaniel and Amy) and Jean's family. Jean's family has a cottage on Lake George which is in Adirondack Park between the towns of Ticonderoga to the North and Lake George Village to the South. It is a 32 mile long lake with beautiful clear waters due to its very small drainage basin.

Lots of outdoor fun was had, waterskiing, tubing, swimming, sailing, and fishing. My sister-in-law and I continue to keep each other waterskiing into our 60's which is a real privilege. Lake George has a very active boating community, so if you want to waterski on calm waters you need to do so pretty early in the morning. Well early for me. I am not a natural early riser; however, the calm lake is well worth it.

While solo sailing I dumped our boat (I had a PFD on), and I could not get it back upright by myself. Just as I resigned myself to waiting on family to come rescue me a man and his two daughters motored by in their boat and asked if I needed help. Yes, indeed their help would be much appreciated. He jumped right in, and with his help the boat very slowly righted. The daughters told me they really liked the color of my sails (teal, yellow, red, purple, and blue striped). I tried to convey how thankful I was for their help (and the sail color compliment) and, I hope I did the job justice. Their help turned a frustrating mistake into a wonderful encounter.

Best of summer to you, and see you this fall.

Keary Lay
UUCB Board Member (Assistant Treasurer)

Church and Community Happenings

Membership Committee

Sharing photos and bios of our new members to celebrate our growing community. Contact Betsy Roper betsyroper1@gmail.com if you'd like to appear on this page in a future issue!

Marya and Scott Lundgren

We are both originally from Massachusetts. We spent 14 years in Northern Virginia before moving to Midcoast Maine in 2025. Having spent decades enjoying northern New England with family and getting married in Georgetown, Maine 30 years ago, returning feels like a homecoming. We are both semi-retired. Marya taught middle and elementary school for 25 years and now substitutes in the local schools. Scott retired after 33 years of federal service, including Coast Guard and NOAA. He is now consulting and supporting a National Academies project.

We love outdoor activities—hiking, gardening and boating, plus musicals, theater, trivia and family game nights. Scott enjoys woodworking, while Marya practices fiber arts and journaling. We have been active UUs since 2011 (Scott grew up UU). After 14 years with the Fairfax, VA congregation, we were eager to find a local UU community upon moving to Maine. We stay active taking online courses, playing weekly pickleball, visiting farmers markets and traveling. Scott volunteers monthly at the Repair Café through Curtis Library.

Church and Community Happenings

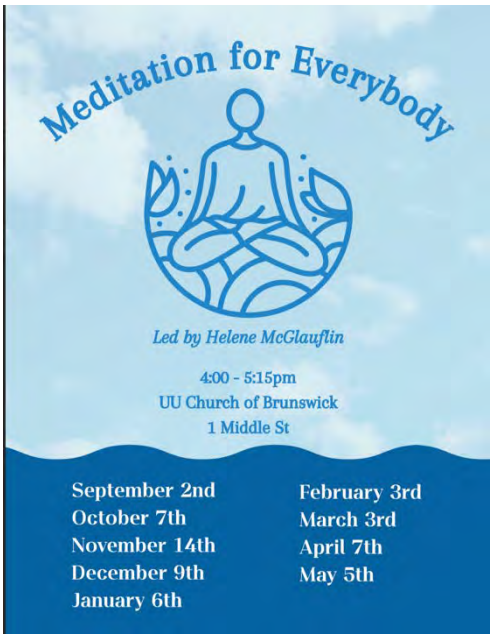
Meditation for Everybody with Helene McGlauflin

Starting September 2nd

Dear Community members and friends on the path:

For the third year I am offering an opportunity for anyone interested to practice meditation in community. My approach is to offer perfect freedom to practice meditation in any way that is comfortable for individual participants--comfortable both physically (using chairs, feel free to bring a cushion though) and in the practice itself. This can mean using a word or mantra, focusing on the breath, settling the mind on a candle or image, or other approaches. No experience necessary. The structure is laid out below, and on the flier. We are so fortunate to be able to practice in the beautiful church sanctuary. Push the buzzer to the left to be let into the building as you arrive.

We create together a field of communal silence. It is an underestimated gift to our noisy, troubled world, and comforting to feel supported on the path. Finding internal and external silence can help quiet your nervous system, reduce stress and help you cultivate a sanctuary of calm abiding within that can nourish your life. And yes, it is something anyone can do individually or communally. Take a breath, and you have begun.



Regular Practice Sessions Sept-May:
When: First Wednesday of each month starting Wednesday, September 2nd, 4-5:15 PM
Where: UUCB 1 Middle Street, Brunswick, in Sanctuary
Structure:
- Welcome and Offering of a Practice Word
- 20 minute silent sit
- 5/10 minute mindful movement
- 20 minute silent sit
- break for tea
- 15 minute discussion: return to practice word, conversation about practice

No sign ups or fee, just come. Reach out if you would like to connect with me or be placed on an email reminder list: mcglauflinh@gmail.com. Hope to see you there.

Helene McGlauflin

Holiday Fair Save the Date!

Holiday Fair

This year's Holiday Fair will be on Saturday, December 5th. Save the date!

Church and Community Happenings

Holiday Fair Update – The 2026 Holiday Fair is Saturday, December 5th

White Elephant - Save for the Fair
These items are good sellers and help us the most. Kids' Toys & Books; Winter/Holiday Decor; Small Sports Equipment; Summer Reads/Popular Fiction; Household Items; Craft Products; Camping Gear; Tools; Kitchenware. Unfortunately, there is NO storage at the church. Items MUST be held until drop-off, Dec 2-4th. Things NOT needed: furniture, clothing, CDs, DVDs, electronics, and anything dirty or broken.

Jewelry - Fall cleanout
Let's recycle our beautiful things! We are busy sorting, cleaning, and carding. Donations are accepted every Sunday in the jewelry box at the Membership Table. For questions, contact Lisa Durrell (edurr13@aol.com)

Crafts - Let's talk ideas!
Email us! Rebecca Waddle (Rebecca.waddleis@gmail.com) and Betsy Williams (Bwilliams120@gmail.com). We are working on new things to try and will give feedback on anything you would like to share!

Concerts for a Cause

The mission of Concerts for a Cause is to hold a series of concerts to raise money for the church and local charities while sharing a variety of quality music with the Brunswick area community. This season's charities are Tedford Housing and Midcoast New Mainers.

Special Private Concert on September 19th

Good News & Bad News

If you read the all-church email that was sent out on July 30th, you learned who the iconic folk musician is who will be playing for Concerts for a Cause on **September 19th.** The artist asked us to keep his name out of all print and social media, but we were allowed to send the special invitations to the All-Church email and to the Concert email list. Ticket sales commenced on August 1st, and the concert was basically sold out on the first day. We squeezed a few more people in, but there will be no more sales, and no one will be able to get a ticket at the door.

So, that's the bad news. The Good news is we have made around $1,650 for our charities even though this artist's fee was higher than any other we have had for Concerts for a Cause.

It's going to be a great concert! Maybe we can do something like it again in the future.

Yard Sauce on October 24th

Save the Date

YARD SAUCE is a Maine-based, acoustic string trio of professional musicians featuring **Chris Moore** (mandolins and vocals), **Jeff Christmas** (guitar and vocals) and **Callie Brennan** (fiddle and vocals). Their dynamic live performances draw from the group's eclectic musical tastes, diverse regional traditional music influences, and a deep catalog of original songs. Old-time, bluegrass, country and folk traditions (including traditional Shaker music) are all part of the mix in every live set. The trio trades off on lead vocal and harmony duties, delivering arrangements of traditional and original tunes with their distinctive, down-to-earth authenticity combined with virtuosic instrumental skills.

Tickets

Adults: In advance $25, at the door $20.
Students/Children: $10
Available after church services, during the week at the church office or Gulf of Maine Books, and online at https://ticketstripe.com/yardsauce

The entire 2026-27 Season can be viewed online at https://www.uubrunswick.org/upcoming-events/concerts-for-a-cause/

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE 26-27 SEASON
All Concerts Start at 7:30pm

Special Concert by Invitation Only Saturday, September 19, 2026
Concert to feature a big folk singer of the sixties and seventies. Invitations will be sent via the Concert For A Cause Email List or UUCB All-Church Email

Yard Sauce	Saturday, October 17, 2026
Portland Jazz Orchestra	Saturday, November 21, 2026
Leopard Girls	January 23, 2027
Aleski Campagne	Saturday, February 20, 2027
Dirty Cello Band	Saturday, March 20, 2027
Joe Jenks	Saturday, April 24, 2027
Lucy Kaplansky	Saturday, May 15, 2027
Heather Masse and Jed Wilson	Saturday, June 19, 2027

UUCB Art Gallery

SEPTEMBER ART SHOW: UNORTHODOX ICONS BY LINDY GIFFORD

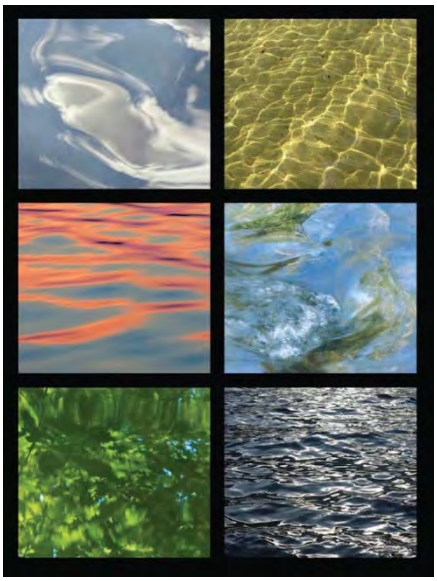
About the Artist

UNORTHODOX ICONS by Lindy Gifford are a loving nod to Orthodox Christian icons, visual prayers or "windows to Heaven" in the Eastern Orthodox tradition. While Christian icons center on images of Christ, Mary, saints, and angels, my icons honor Gaia, all of Creation, the land and waters where I live, and the plants and animals who live there with me.

My Icons navigate various boundaries, including between *digital* and *handmade.*
They are archival digital pigment prints of compositions I create from multiple original photographs, and/or multiple original drawings in pen and ink or watercolor pastel. Occasionally I combine my photos with historic engravings and sometimes I add words. They are composed on my computer using design software (no AI) and printed with a digital printer in archival inks on archival art paper or canvas.

In Praise of Lady Gaia, digital tapestries on canvas (mostly), are in the Main Gallery.
Marginal Notes, archival digital prints on paper, are in the May Sarton Room.

Images: Artwork by Lindy Gifford



Please take some time to enjoy the artwork in Fellowship Hall. Each month the Gallery Committee installs a new exhibit.
FMI: contact Anne Merrifield (amerri39@yahoo.com).

Charity With Soul

SEPTEMBER CHARITY WITH SOUL: Mawita'nej Epijij

Contact: Stephen Wood, swood88@outlook.com

*Every month half of the non-pledge Sunday collection goes to a local charity. During UUCB's last fiscal year, July 2025 through June 2026, the church donated **$23,134** to charities. As we pass the plate this month, please consider the following statement from Mawita'neg Epijij.*

Mission

Mawita'nej Epijij (mah-wee dawn-ig epi-ge edge - translated as welcome to the gathering place in the Mi'kmaq language) is a community of Wabanaki people reclaiming their cultural lifeways to nurture and nourish one another and honor the inherent dignity of all. Mawita'nej Epijij (M'nE) was founded in 2018 by Heather Augustine as a way to bring together Wabanaki families in the Brunswick area. We are disrupting the legacy of inequitable colonial systems by creating safe spaces to gather and reconnect to our language, culture, food, land, and one another.

Our Brunswick area community faces unique challenges because of the distance from the reservations and their resources. While our community has a wide range of life experiences, often they live in this part of Maine because of displacement from tribal communities through residential schools or child protective services. We also recognize Brunswick as an important confluence - a place where, for millennia, the land and people have come together. This sense of place guides us in our work.

M'nE hosts monthly gatherings for dozens of Wabanaki families to share a meal and build community. Attendees pick up food boxes and other resources (such as school supplies) and are given gas cards to reach the gatherings. Food from many sources grown by M'nE, purchased with grant funds, or donated by other organizations -- is put together for all community members. We provide to everyone (rather than being "need-based") because we recognize and honor the inherent values of generosity and reciprocity. Each gathering also includes traditional art and cultural practices for youth.

M'nE is also developing programming to get Wabanaki youth out on the land, and support the womxn of our community in language reclamation. Indigenous youth deserve to re-establish connections to the land that formed their people and we are finding ways to get them out to do everything from fishing to downhill skiing. We are also creating spaces for women and two spirits to come together to heal and build community, while also finding inspiration and strength to create new traditions of sustenance and return our language to people and the land.

Mawita'nej Epijij is seeking a physical space for gathering and community building. This is a space for us to use at will and independently.

Heather Augustine, founder and coordinator, in Mowita'nej Epijij community garden

Working for Justice

Working for Justice Steering Group

Some Focus Group meetings are starting up in September. Feel free to join any meeting, or contact the Focus Group point person for more information.

Immigrant Justice

Contact: Bonnie Wood (bonnie.s.wood@maine.edu)

The purpose of this group is to educate each other not only about volunteer opportunities but also about current events and legislation that affect the New Mainers in our communities.

A September meeting date and time will be determined by Doodle Poll. If you are not yet on the Immigrant Justice email list, please contact Bonnie Wood (bonnie.s.wood@maine.edu) ASAP to be included in the polling.

MUUSAN (Maine UU State Action Network)

Contact: Betsy Williams (bwilliams120@gmail.com)

MUUSAN
Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network

This statewide action network's mission is to educate UUs about legislative actions and bills relevant to issues we believe benefit from our faith-based advocacy.

The local UUCB Focus Group consists of all UUCBers (on a Google Group email list) who are interested in receiving MUUSAN information and taking action with us. Once on this list, you will receive weekly Action Alerts from the MUUSAN network during the state legislative session and occasional emails outside those dates. Contact bwilliams120@gmail.com to get on this list.

Earth Justice

Contact: Jackie Cressy rivendellhousebnb@mac.com

Meeting: Wednesday, 23 September at 2:30pm in the May Sarton Room

The Earth Justice team works to increase awareness of environmental issues and encourage individual and community action.

Three Questions for You:

- What is your greatest concern regarding our environment?
- Are you taking action to help mitigate that concern? Perhaps supporting an environmental organization, or finding ways to shrink your carbon footprint?
- What could the Earth Justice Team be doing to support you?

Since regrouping, we've joined other UU churches in the Green Sanctuary 2030 program,and sent an action report to GS2030 about the addition of solar panels to the church roof. We also held a Take Action Tea to highlight the need for improved fish passage past the Pejepscot dam on the Androscoggin River between Brunswick and Topsham.

We are a small team and need your suggestions and ideas and your support for effective actions. Feel free to attend our meeting on the 23rd, or email your thoughts to Jackie at rivendellhousebnb@mac.com.

Working for Justice

UUtheVote 2026

Contact: Faith Barnes (faithb.56@gmail.com)

From UUtheVote coordinator, Julia FitzRandolf:
Once again MUUSAN is leaning in on a statewide initiative to engage our Maine churches and congregations in a robust effort to get out the vote (GOTV). MUUSAN has a strong bench of advocacy partnerships including the League of Women Voters of Maine, the Maine People's Alliance, the Maine Women's Lobby and Maine Votes/Maine Voices Network who depend on volunteers to make their work possible. Our GOTV action menu can extend beyond Maine with the UUA's national UUtheVote campaign that targets specific states where our UU members can make a difference.

Faith Barnes has agreed to be UUCB's Congregational Voter Liaison (CVL) this year. With enough interest from UUCBers, she will attend regular meetings to learn about direct UUtheVote action opportunities for us. We would like to make GOTV efforts the focus of our weekly September and October Take Action Teas at UUCB. Please help Faith form a group to oversee this important election year work by contacting her at faithb.56@gmail.com.

Wabanaki Awareness

Contact: Catherine Cyrus, sweetfernwfield@gmail.com

Wabanaki Focus Group Meeting: Wednesday, September 9, 4:00-5:30pm at UUCB

Our overall purpose is to educate ourselves, the congregation and the wider community on issues of importance to the Wabanaki people with whom we share a complex history and present in this place we all call home.

We have monthly meetings but have not yet finalized the calendar details for this year. We welcome all interested UUCB members and friends to join us. Please let Cathey know if you plan to attend the September meeting so we can be sure to have the meeting space we need.

UPCOMING September event:
Wednesday, September 16th 5-6:30 PM

Wabanaki Tribal Sovereignty in Maine: Community Conversation
Curtis Memorial Library, Morrell Room
Wednesday, September 16, 5-6:30pm

This event invites community members to explore the history, current reality, and future of Tribal sovereignty in Maine. From foundational treaty rights and legal frameworks to modern self-determination and environmental stewardship, our speakers will share insights into why recognizing Wabanaki sovereignty is vital for all who call Maine home. Free and open to the public. – Seating is limited – Registration required via library website: https://curtislibrary.libcal.com/event/16620769 Only 140 spots are available. Event organized by Wabanaki Alliance; Curtis Memorial Library and UU Church of Brunswick.

Meetings and Activities Calendar

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

Events are held at UUCB, unless posted otherwise.

SEPTEMBER						
Sunday	**Monday**	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Saturday**
August 30 Worship 10am	August 31	1 Worship Committee 7pm	2 Meditation for Everyone 4pm UU Worship Band 6pm	3 Membership Committee 12:30pm Communication Committee 4pm Choir 7pm	4 Office Closed	5
6 Worship 10am New Comers Chat 11am Recorder Ensemble 11:15am	7 LABOR DAY	8 Finance 4pm Pastoral Care 4:30pm Stories with Soul 6:30pm	9 UU Worship Band 6pm	10 Art Gallery Committee 10am Choir 7pm	11 Side Door Coffeehouse 6pm	12 Leadership Meeting 9am
13 Worship 10am	14	15	16 Wabanaki Speaker Reception 3pm Knitting Class 4pm Board 6:30pm UU Worship Band 6pm	17 Choir 7pm	18 Drum Circle 5pm	19 Concert For A Cause Invitation Only Concert 7:30pm
20 Worship 10am Discovering Your Gifts/Finding Your Place Workshop 11:30am	21	22 Stories with Soul 6:30pm	23 Earth Justice Focus Group 2:30pm UU Worship Band 6pm	24 Building & Grounds 10:30am Women's Group 1pm Choir 7pm	25 Brunswick-Topsham Singing Resistance Group 6pm	26
27 Worship 10am 4th Sunday All Stars 11:15am Working for Justice 11:15am	28	29 Art Work Uninstall 11am	30 Art Work Install 10am Knitting Class 4pm UU Worship Band 6pm	October 1 Membership Committee 12:30pm Communication Committee 4pm Choir 7pm	2	3 Whole Building Rental 7am-6pm

OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday-Friday 10am-4pm
Sunday, Monday & Saturday - Closed

The Parish Messenger Deadline for the October issue is Saturday, September 19th .
Please send your content to: parish-messenger-editor@uubrunswick.org.