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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

Shirley Bernier, Office Administrator

Tony Sulkoski, Sexton

# Parish Messenger

## Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick



**ALL SERVICES AT 10:00 AT THE MINNIE BROWN CENTER**

### **November 4 - "Election Day Sermon"**

#### **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS. Turn clocks one hour BACK.**

In days of old, the minister traditionally delivered a sermon just before election day. Often those sermons were jeremiads about the state of affairs. Rev. Stocker may not pound the pulpit (but, then again, she may), and she will not tell you how to vote. But she will lay out what she sees as some of the important issues of our times. Music by the choir, directed by Heidi Neufeld, with Ann Hartzler accompanying on the piano.

### **November 11 - "Making History"**

On November 11, 1982, the good people of UUCB placed a time capsule into the kitchen wall of the church building. The capsule survived the fire and the church demolition. We will open it today as we consider what it means to "make" history. Rev. Stocker preaching. Music provided by Louise Gephart (harp) and Brad Mitchell (piano).

### **November 18 - "Thanksgiving Sunday"**

With special music, a celebration of new members, and a special intergenerational service created by Director of Religious Education Nicole Shanks and Rev. Stocker, we will usher in Thanksgiving. Please bring some canned goods to contribute to a special collection for the food pantry. Music provided by the choir, directed by Heidi Neufeld, and accompanist Larry Lemmel.

### **November 25 - "Gratitude Potluck"**

Organized by the Worship Committee, this service comes from the heart of the people who are invited to contribute readings for the service. (See "Readings Needed" on page 5 in this newsletter for information on how to participate.) Music provided by Nathaniel and Zachary Lay (piano) and hymns by Jean Lay.

## HOW TO REACH US

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

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

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

**The Minister**, Rev. Sylvia Stocker will have office hours at home and at Fort Andross. She is available for and by appointment. In an emergency, do not hesitate to call her anywhere or any time. (Consult the church directory for her home number.) For routine church business, please call her at the church.

Monday is the Sabbath for the Minister, the DRE, and the office.

**Telephone/Fax: 207 729-8515**

**E-mail:** [uubruns@gwi](mailto:uubruns@gwi)

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

### Important RE Announcements and Dates

#### **November 4**

- \* RE Classes
- \* OWL

#### **November 11**

- \* RE Classes

#### **November 18**

- \* Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service
- \* RE children participating;
- \* OWL

#### **November 25**

- \* Multi-Age Activity: Holiday Crafts
- \* Youth Group



## FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



**I** hate to do it because it seems so early but I want to start talking about the holiday season! Specifically, I want to talk with you about the RE holiday craft sale fundraiser. Every year our RE children make crafts on the two Sundays following Thanksgiving (11/25 and 12/2). These crafts are then sold in a craft fair during hospitality hour. The sale will happen on December 9th this year.

Holiday craft making with our children is more than just a cute way to occupy them on two Sunday mornings while parents are in church. The money raised from these crafts is donated to Tedford Housing and Coastal Humane Society - two organizations doing a lot of good in our local community. This year in RE we'd like to work on collecting donations of items needed by these two organizations in addition to the money raised through the sale of the crafts. Between November 18th and December 9th the RE program will be organizing an item drive on Sundays. Stay tuned for more information!



I hope you'll support us by donating items and buying our crafts (they make great holiday gifts!). I'd also encourage you to find out more about Tedford Housing (<http://tedfordhousing.org/>) and Coastal Humane Society (<http://www.coastalhumanesociety.org/>). If you are a parent of a child that will be participating in the craft making activities, talk with your children about the services that these two organizations provide our community. Find out what additional steps your family can take to end homelessness for both people and animals in our community.

Blessings,  
*nicole*



## ... MINISTER'S MUSINGS...

**F**all seems to be taking its own sweet time falling this year. I still have a yellow lily blooming in my yard long after the frosts should be well behind us.

Still, I feel my body, heart, and mind settling in for the darker season. Some changes are already apparent. The hours of daylight have noticeably lessened. Brown pine needles swirl in windy currents as they drift from the trees. And of course the foliage colors have changed and continue to change. I find myself burrowing into the covers when the alarm goes off in the morning. Even more, I sense within a different pace, a more quiet and contemplative posture. My more poetic soul is stirred in these months.

When I was a child, my mother and I used to collect the most beautiful maple leaves we could find. Then Mom would iron them between pieces of waxed paper to preserve their brilliance. When I grew up, I followed the tradition with my own son, taping our waxed leaves to windows where the light could emphasize the feast of color. Sometimes I mailed my leaves to family and friends who lived far from New England to give them a hint of what we were seeing.

But I have learned waxed leaves are a poor substitute for the real thing. And anyway, they, too, fade and turn dull.

In my mind, nothing can truly capture, forever, a New England autumn – not waxed leaves, not photography, not art, not words. Autumn is temporary, fleeting; it slips from our grasp. But we can carry the memory of it in our hearts and minds by living through it – letting our bodies soak up the foliage colors, the sound of kicking up leaves, the smell of decaying vegetation, and the feel of newly crisp, cold air.

We have our autumns. Whether we live in New England or not, yes, we have our autumns. Times when we shed what once served. Times when we sense the slowing down of age. Times when we witness death moving in. Times when we are grateful for the new nourishment that comes when the old has been mixed into the even older and turned into fertile soil for new growing.

Times of quiet and contemplation.

I know people who don't like the autumn, no matter how beautifully the trees deck themselves out. Such folks

feel melancholy in the gathering shadows and the growing cold. I can understand how fall can evoke melancholy feelings – particularly if one has, as I do, some sad anniversaries at this time of year.

But I don't feel melancholy so much as I feel thoughtful and pensive. More I feel awed by the earth's cycles. I welcome such a colorful, flamboyant reminder of my numbered days, and I turn my soul toward contemplation and welcome quiet. Gathering darkness offers me a particular restfulness and comfort.

May these darkening days be gentle for you and full of insight, wisdom, and warm, quiet comfort.

Love, *Sylvia*



## SNOW CANCELLATION POLICY



The weather may seem warm, but winter is on its way. Though we are reluctant to cancel church ever, sometimes, for everyone's safety, that's the most prudent decision to make. When we do cancel, we phone in announcements to television channels 6 and 8. In addition, we provide cancellation information on the church answering machine's outgoing message.

Rule of thumb: If there is a parking ban in Bath, you can be reasonably sure we will cancel services. We may cancel in other circumstances, too. So, in the event of a storm, be sure to check before heading out.

## MEMBERSHIP

### ...WHERE SOUL MEETS SOUL

During our August retreat your Membership Committee brainstormed ideas for a mission statement and crafted the following: *“Our mission is to create the friendliest, warmest, most welcoming congregation in Mid-coast Maine, where soul meets soul.”*

We feel that we’re well on our way to being the friendliest, warmest, and most welcoming congregation, creating relationships that go beyond the casual, as “soul meets soul.” The Benedictine monks believed in radical hospitality where every visitor might be Christ and should be welcomed with that possibility. Adapting this idea, we strive to honor the spirituality and seek the divine spark in everyone we welcome at UUCB. With our mission statement in mind, Membership Committee is focused on nurturing one another by reaching out to and keeping in contact with newcomers, friends, and members throughout their association with UUCB.

A goal of the Membership Committee is to plan a sequence of events and opportunities in which all can experience and feel connected to the life of our congregation. Membership Committee initiates congregational involvement at the Welcome Table and provides circumstances for soul to meet soul beyond coffee hour and casual meetings.

A few weeks ago Membership hosted jUUST Desserts. This gathering was a wonderful example of souls meeting souls. Many of us did not know one another. As deeper

conversations developed, we could feel a closer connection to folks we might not have known previously. We gathered spontaneously in small groups to discuss diverse topics and points of view. Listening was important; contrasting views were stated followed by lively discourse. Realizing the spark in each idea we built relationships on a new level; soul met soul!

Membership’s Orientation classes are another venue for souls to meet souls. When you read this, we expect our fall classes will be underway. Guided by our minister, Sylvia Stocker, and other church leaders, newcomers to our church or those new to the UU denomination will explore our history, theology, and our life experiences as soul meets soul.

Every second and fourth Sunday, Membership leads “Conversation Corner” at the front of the sanctuary following the worship service. Please drop in to ask questions or to discuss concerns about our church. And during the winter months we’ll host circle meals and our annual soUUp’s On! – more opportunities for souls to meet souls.

Stay tuned for details about upcoming Membership events so you can share the fun with the friendliest, warmest, most welcoming congregation in Mid-coast Maine, where soul meets soul.

## WOMEN’S ALLIANCE NEWS

Our calendar for the year is nearly complete. Here are some details:

**November 13, 11-2**, Curtis Library, making bows for wreaths and favors for Meals on Wheels

**Dec.16**, Sunday, Lunch at Mae's followed by the Freeport Community Christmas concert

**January 8, 12:30-3**, Curtis Library, Dessert only with Robin Robinson speaking on gardens, birds, and butterflies

**February 12, 10:30** at Weld Henshaw's home with talk on poet EA Robinson and the art of collecting, followed by a brown bag lunch

**March 12, 10:30**, Dipper Cove, drumming with Betty Wurtz and brown bag lunch

**April 9 ???**

**May 14, 10:30**, Morning tour at Coastal Botanical Garden and annual meeting

We will need hostesses to supply desserts and coffee/tea for January, February, and March.

During our time together in November we will discuss how we raise and allocate our funds. We will collect suggestions for women's and children's causes that we would like to support this year. Hopefully in December we will be ready to vote on a plan and the causes.

## MARRIAGE EQUALITY

### VOTE YES!

Unitarian Universalists (UUs) believe that the First Principle of our faith, respecting "the inherent worth and dignity of every person," applies equally to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. UU congregations and clergy have long recognized and celebrated same-sex marriages within our faith tradition. Since 1973, when we established the Office of Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Concerns, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) has made an institutional commitment to full equality for bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender people.

We recognize that full equality can only be achieved when it is recognized legally in society. Working for full equality for bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender persons is one of our highest legislative priorities.

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Every time - 32 to be exact - that voters in the United States have been asked to vote on same-sex marriage they have turned it down. But there's a good chance that string will be broken November 6.

Three states—Maine, Maryland, and Washington—have measures on the ballot that would authorize same-sex marriage. In all three, polling is close. These state legislatures have all approved same-sex marriage, but because opponents then called for referendums, the issue has to pass a statewide vote.

In a fourth state - Minnesota - marriage equality advocates are working to get out a "No" vote next month on a legislative measure that was passed to prevent same-sex marriage.

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## UPDATE FROM THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Yes, even with a highly successful Capital Campaign, your Committee is still here! It has recently come to our attention that a small number of letters of appeal intended to go out didn't get sent--people not otherwise on our mailing list whom Church members thought would be open to our campaign. Well, it's not too late and as you know, we still need the money! We'll be sending out letters to these "friends of friends" in the next week or so. If you know of people who should get a letter, please email Cindy Parker at [cindyparker48@gmail.com](mailto:cindyparker48@gmail.com) with names and addresses. As the earlier list seems to be missing, please resend any names and addresses you may have sent us earlier. Many thanks for your help!

By the time you read this, you should have received a statement of the status of your pledge to the Capital Campaign, handed out or mailed along with a statement of your pledge to the church's Annual Budget Drive. If you haven't received this statement, or have questions about it, please email Keary Lay, Campaign Treasurer, at [keary.lay@gmail.com](mailto:keary.lay@gmail.com)

## READINGS NEEDED

The Worship Committee will be facilitating the service on Sunday, November 25th. The theme of the service is "Gratitude/Potluck." It will be a non-traditional reading service. We are soliciting for reading suggestions (poems, humorous excerpts, etc.) by a famous author or yourself.

Please contact Sienna or someone from the Worship Committee by Sunday, November 11th (earlier if possible) if you have something you could share.

Pieces should be limited to 2-5 minutes in length.

Thank you in advance for your interest and contribution. The Worship Committee will review the submissions and will contact you if your piece is chosen for the service.

**If you want to turn your life around,  
try thankfulness. It will change  
your life mightily.**

**-Gerald Good**

## LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

### PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

When the new UUCB building gets underway, that re-imagined building rising on our familiar site will open up new prospects for us as a congregation. We'll see a structure that encourages fresh ideas and plans. We'll be able to envision a vigorous church life in facilities that give rise to new thinking and planning.

Our pace has been slow and deliberate so far, but that won't be true much longer. Things will begin to happen. The new church will start to take shape, and a future that has seemed distant will be just around the corner.

How do we prepare ourselves for the changes to come? One element will be a new long-range plan for our church. The Strategic Plan formulated in 2009 was intended to be in force until 2014, but the fire that led to the razing of our building made many elements of that Plan obsolete. We need to re-think our long range programming, just as we re-thought our church building.

Long range plans emerge directly from the congregation. They're not formulated by the minister, or by the Board, or by the Long Range Planning Committee. Instead the ideas that go into the plan are brought to light through brainstorming, consensus-seeking and prioritizing. Input needs to come from all members of the congregation. Every idea is valuable, all views are worth considering.

It's not too soon to begin thinking about what you would like to see as elements of our long-term plan.

What concrete, everyday steps should we take to develop programs, events, and institutional "ways of being" that will help us accomplish the various aspects of our mission statement? What elements go into creating a spiritual community, and how can we embody those elements in our communal behavior as well as our church services and programs? How can we best nurture one another? We already put out a rainbow banner, but what steps can we take to demonstrate that we are a welcoming community for anyone who wishes to explore religious and spiritual issues? How does a small but determined congregation work for justice, and through what avenues? Caring for the earth is a multi-faceted challenge if ever there was one. Can we take on more of those facets, more energetically? Can we imagine "adult RE" programs – shorter or longer - that would support our mission? And, what opportunities might hold the interest of teens, young adults, and single people?

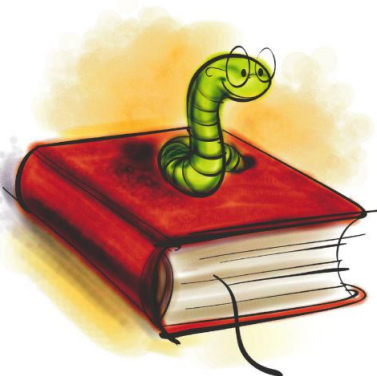
If you have thoughts, wishes, flashes of inspiration, hang on to them. Later in the year, we will try to gather all our ideas and shape them into a plan that has many specific elements but still comes together as a long range planning document that's workable for our church community

Stay tuned!

*Nancy Dorian*



### STORIES WITH SOUL 10 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Please stay after coffee hour on Sun, November 11, to help us celebrate ten wonderful years of this church-community program. You'll get to hear some great short fiction read aloud and take part in stimulating discussion. All in exactly sixty minutes! There will also be some goodies to keep you from getting hungry before lunch.

*Bill Clark and Larry Lemmel, Coordinators*

## NOVEMBER CHARITY WITH SOUL



Restorative Justice Project  
of the Midcoast

The Restorative Justice Project of the Midcoast promotes fundamental change in the justice system and schools. Our responses to crime and wrongdoing seek renewal and safety for the community, support and healing for victims and accountability and reintegration of the offender.

### Program Overview

Current programs offered at RJP are Restorative School Practices, Community Resolution Teams, Court Deferred Dispositions, Community Reentry Programs, and Maine Coastal Regional Reentry Center. To learn more about these programs see the chart at <http://rjpmidcoast.org/cms/program-overview>.

### Volunteer Opportunities

#### Mentoring

Individuals interested in serving as mentors can do so in a number of ways with students at local schools, juveniles involved with probation or the courts, young adults on deferred dispositions with the court or inmates reentering the community from jail. In addition, mentors who have an interest in co-mentoring with small groups of participants will have the opportunity to do so at the Maine Coastal Regional Reentry Center. Mentors generally meet with the participant once per week for an hour or more, over a 6 to 18 month time period.

#### Conference Facilitators

Those with group facilitation skills are invited to participate in community resolution conferences with any one of our programs. Facilitators organize the conferences by bringing the person harmed and the offender (and his/her family members, in most cases involving juveniles), together with community members to participate in a dialogue related to the incident and to help all persons affected to reach an agreement regarding ways of repairing the harm and to begin to offer some form(s) of restitution. Cases are referred to RJP through schools, juvenile probation, the courts or local law enforcement.

### Community Observers

Offers the opportunity for members of the community to participate in community resolution conference with persons who have caused harm and to share how their choices and actions have affected the larger community. The harm that has been done has caused a “ripple” effect that impacts, not only those immediately involved in the incident that caused the harm, but the social fabric of our community as well.

### Other

Other opportunities are available that relate to the broader operations of the organization. As a volunteer based non-profit, we seek the expertise and professional skills of members of our community. Skills in grant-writing, public relations, technology, event sponsorship, recruitment, community organizing, and others are valued by RJP Midcoast. We also need to identify connections to employment and training, housing, educational resources as well as ways to help people navigate the legal and social service systems that directly impact our program participants.

For more information contact RJP at [info@rjpmidcoast.org](mailto:info@rjpmidcoast.org) or check out the website at <http://www.rjpmidcoast.org/>

### Interfaith Candlelight Vigil



In Support of Marriage Equality

Sunday, October 28th

5:30 - 6 PM

Brunswick Green

## A BICENTENNIAL MOMENT



A few weeks ago Brad and I had a chance to visit with Malena and Earl Stimpson, and naturally our talk turned to church.

Earl was christened in our church in 1921. His grandfather and his mother were Universalists in Gardiner, Maine where she grew up attending the church there.

Earl grew up in our church except for four years when his family moved to Waterville from 1931 to 1934. Brad spoke of a newspaper clipping he had read in the church archives dated 1937 when Earl was a member of the church youth group. They performed an annual Youth Sunday service. Earl's part in the service was to read the scriptures. He did not remember this incident, but had fond memories of playing on the church basketball team in the interchurch league. The church league used Bowdoin College's old Hyde Gymnasium for their practice and games.

Malena also was born and christened into our church. When she became a teenager, the church did not have a youth group, so she joined a youth group at the Berean Baptist Church. She said that they were always asking her to be baptized. After some persistence on their part, Malena told them she would join, but that she would be going back to her own Universalist church when they formed a youth group there, and to us she added, "I did!"

Earl and Malena were married in the church on June 16, 1949. They gathered wild flowers to decorate the church and kept them in the cellar to keep them cool and fresh. Before the Community Room was constructed, the cellar contained a dirt floor, a coal furnace and a coal bin. At the time of their marriage, the church had no settled minister, so their wedding was officiated by the Rev. Dr. Carnes, a retired minister living in Bowdoinham who would come over to do the services on Sundays.

That fall of September 1949, the Rev. John Cummins became the settled minister. He had attended Bowdoin College and Harvard Divinity School. Cummins soon married a young woman who was a teacher in the public schools and taught in the church school. She was Drusilla

Congdon, daughter of a prominent family in the congregation.

The Cummins formed a couples club in 1950 called the Merrimates. It was an active social group that planted gardens around the church, put on dinners and was responsible for the popular annual Easter breakfasts. They also took on the project of converting the cellar into a Community room with a concrete floor, new rest rooms and a kitchen located at the opposite end of the room from where it was later moved.

In preparation for the building of the Community Room in the cellar, the Merrimates dismantled the coal bin and cleaned up the cellar preparing it for renovation.

Before this renovation, church suppers were served in the second floor room of the church. Before the church offices were built at one end of this room, it was large enough to seat about fifty people at one serving. There was a tiny kitchen at one end with a slate sink which Malena said was so low that, being a tall person, she found it very hard on her back as she washed the dishes after suppers.

Sunday school was held in this upstairs room also. Later the minister's study, snugly fitted under the bell tower, was built during Will Saunders' ministry. Men of the church built an office for the newly hired church secretary adjacent to the study when Brad became the minister.

Malena was, for a short time, superintendent of the Sunday School. There was no settled minister at the time and there was confusion in what should be done and taught. She remembers that they taught the courses in the Beacon series called "*How Miracles Abound*" and "*The Church Across the Street*," (both favorites of mine when I was in church school.) She and her family, which included their son, Guy, attended religious education conferences held at Ferry Beach in Saco, Maine. They camped out there for two weeks summers for two years and then stayed in the Quillen Hotel at Ferry Beach for another conference.

I asked them what was a major problem or concern for the congregation in those times, and they agreed that it was the short termed ministries and the struggle to get settled ministers.

Through their testimony, I was impressed with the tenacity of our little congregation to survive and even thrive over many lean years and still stand firm as witnesses of Unitarian Universalist values and faith in the larger community.

## FUNDRAISING

### NANCY'S GLASS ACT AT STARZ

Nancy Whiteside is again using her talents and generosity to help out the church financially.

In addition to having 3 pieces of jewelry in our auction, she is again selling her beautiful jewelry at Starz during the holiday season.

In November and December Nancy's Glass Act dichroic/fused glass jewelry will be on sale for the holidays at Starz, 64 Maine St., Brunswick (next to Morning Glory).

Profits from the sale will go to the UUCB rebuilding effort. Nancy Whiteside, a UUCB member designs colorful one-



of-a-kind earrings, necklaces, pins and magnets. This is a great opportunity to buy others (or yourself!) gifts and help UUCB at the same time.

### LAST CHANCE !!

#### .... To bid on the Online Auction

It ends Friday, November 2nd  
<http://biddingforgood.com/uucb>

#### .... To buy tickets for the Live/Silent Auction

Sunday, October 28th is your last chance to get your tickets for \$5 each. At the door, they will be \$10. We hope everyone comes with a dish for our potluck, even if they don't bid on anything. November 3rd at 5:30 pm at KOC.

#### .... To buy tickets for the Women's Alliance Dollhouse Raffle

The winning ticket will be drawn at the Live Auction on November 3rd. You do not need to be at the auction to win. tickets are \$5.00 each or \$25.00 for 6. Contact Gretchen at 207-833-5125.



### Side Door Coffee House

**Friday, November 16**  
**7-10 pm**

**Featured performer:**  
**Ted Demille**



### & the Moonlighters

A talented singer-songwriter, Ted has written over 100 songs and been a contributing member of some of the best bluegrass bands in Maine including The Oakhurst Boys, North Star, Erica Brown and the Bluegrass Connection, Bits and Pieces, and most recently Cribstone Bridge.

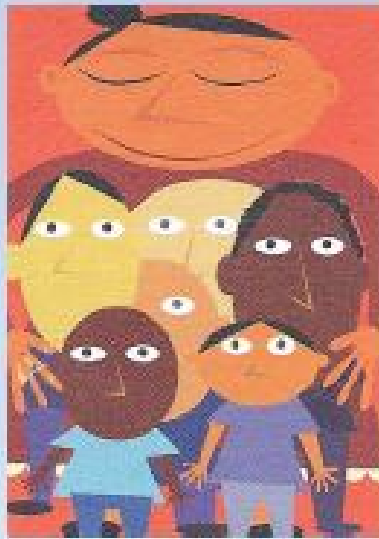
Bluegrass, folk, blues, and rock 'n roll form the foundation upon which Ted's carefully crafted songs rest. You are likely to notice nods and references to sources as varied as children's nursery rhymes, Chuck Berry, Bill Monroe, and Bob Dylan. A powerful and emotional singer and guitarist, Ted knows how to deliver a song.

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

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

# AN EVENING OF SACRED STORIES

... told by members of *Color of Community*  
— a non-profit, educational group of refugees,  
immigrants and international students.



The mission of *Color of Community* is to:

"open people's hearts and minds...  
reduce bias and prejudice...  
share our "Sacred Stories."

Come meet these new Mainers and  
hear their powerful stories.

**Friday, November 2, 7-9:30 pm**

**Morrell Room, Curtis Memorial Library  
23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick**

For more information call the Unitarian Universalist Church office at 729-8515

## FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

### *Hurry up and Wait!*

If ever there were a virtue in procrastination, I feel absolved to have waited writing this message for two days after Sue Michaud's Parish Messenger deadline for copy. Sorry Sue, but I just returned home inspired by the Sunday Service "*Color of Community*" on October 21.

The Sacred Stories presented at the service are a tangible reminder of why being a Unitarian Universalist is so important. They epitomize our church's connection to the wider world and remind me of the reasons I am so committed to the goals and principles of this congregation.

Following through on UUCB's congregational commitment to address the issues of Hate and Justice, our Social Justice Working Group is in its second year of bringing powerful programming and important messages to our community. This issue of the Parish Messenger lists several upcoming justice events and activities to focus our thinking about very troubling yet critical issues, the Interfaith Candlelight Vigil and more Sacred Stories among them. On behalf of the

Board, I thank the Social Justice Working Group for their creativity and efforts for raising our awareness and providing links for us to serve the greater community.

Sylvia has written an article published on the UUA-Northern New England District website which explains the background of Congregationally-Based Justice Work and how UUCB is engaging in justice issues and connecting to the wider community. If you can go online, please check out her article at

[http://nned.uua.org/social\\_justice.shtml#brunswick](http://nned.uua.org/social_justice.shtml#brunswick).

I came away from the *Color of Community* service with another perspective that will help me move through the next few months of day-to-day church responsibilities with a little more appreciation. I was reminded that no matter how consuming the to-do list is, how difficult it may be to arrange a meeting or solve a problem, the real work of our church lies outside the operational tasks and issues that take much of our time. It's an important reminder.

One piece of reportable Board business involves our support for the Church Council as it evolves into the body that truly coordinates the Program of UUCB and helps us all focus on our goals, both within our congregation and outside. Pat Harris and Cathey Cyrus are working diligently with committees and other Council members to make the Council a meaningful and effective group. We as a Board endorse their efforts and will be developing strategies to help them solidify their role and organization.

I promise Sue that I won't make a habit of being overly late submitting the Message from the Board Chair for future editions. But a little extra space to find perspective on the real work of the church can only come from time and experiences. Thank you to all of our hard working members and Friends for making our congregation the vibrant, meaningful, spiritual community resource that it is.

*Mike Heath*

## WORKING FOR JUSTICE

### *Mark your calendars for upcoming Working for Justice event!*

The Working for Justice Steering Group invites your engagement in this upcoming event – a part of our congregation's ministry to work towards the prevention of prejudice and hate. Join others to learn, to reflect on your own understanding and to find your voice.

#### **Listen to the stories of these new Mainers**

On **Friday, November 2, 7-9:30**, Morrell Room, Curtis Library, our church will host a presentation of *Sacred Stories* told by refugees, immigrants and international students who are members of *Color of Community*. Their stories are filled with compassion and hope even as they tell of experiences of unspeakable violence and tragedy.

We heard from three of these inspiring new Mainers at the October 21 Sunday service, and you may have met some of them last June at our community conversation about immigration. We hope you will come to listen to their powerful stories. There will be time for dessert and conversation following their presentations.

*(If you can bring a dessert to share, please let one of us know.)*

Working for Justice Steering Group: Cathey Cyrus, Jane Danielson, Sue Kennedy, Catherine Knowles, Ed McCartan, Faith Woodman

# NOVEMBER 2012

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

FA - Fort Andross Church Office MBC - Minnie Brown Center MR - Morell Room, Library				1 7-8:30 Choir	2 Tedford Meal 6:30-9 Sacred Stories with Color of Community: MR, Library 5:30-9 UU Writers Retreat	3 5:30-9 Live/Silent Auction: Knights of Columbus, Brunswick 9-1 UU Writers Retreat
4 10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath Green Sanctuary Mtg Membership Committee 	5	6  5:30 Finance Comm: Bowdoin 7-9 Worship Committee: FA 111	7 Council	8 12-2 Strategic Plan: People Plus 7-8:30 Choir	9	10
11 10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath Conversation Corner 11:45-12:45 Stories with Soul 10th Anniversary Celebration Remember our Veterans	12	13 6:30 Stories with Soul 7 New UU Class: St. Paul's 11-2 Women's Alliance: MR Library	14	15 6:15 RE Committee 7-8:30 Choir	16 5:30-9 UU Writers Retreat 7-10 Sidedoor Coffeehouse MR Library (Ted Demille & the Moonlighters)	17 Tipping Party Anne Brackett Memorial Service: Maine Maritime Museum
18 10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath <i>Intergenerational</i>	19	20 6:30-9 Board Meeting: FA Noon: <i>Deadline for            Announcements &amp; Order            of Service Items</i>	21	22 Office Closed for Thanksgiving 	23 Office Closed for Thanksgiving	24
25 10:00 Service: MBC Beth Israel in Bath Conversation Corner Wreath Making Party	26	27 6:30 Stories with Soul	28 Noon: Men's Luncheon	29 7-8:30 Choir	30	

 Happy  
 Thanksgiving

Newsletter editor:  
 Susan Michaud  
[michaud\\_susan@comcast.net](mailto:michaud_susan@comcast.net)  
 NEXT DEADLINE  
 for December issue is  
 Fri, November 23, 2012, 5 pm