

Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church
of Brunswick



February, 2017

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SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10AM

February 5 “Art and soul”

Claire Curole

Creative expression nourishes the soul of the artist - and the artist's community. What are we creating now? Music by Derek Herzer.

February 12 “Evoking Our Better Angels”

Marylly Tiemann

Our recent First Inaugural ceremony sparked multiple reactions across our nation. Maryly Tiemann will focus this service around a vision of overcoming division, and as Lincoln shared in his First Inaugural, “swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.” The question is: How do we remain positive AND still safeguard our values? Music by Derek Herzer and the UUCB Choir, under the direction of Heidi Neufeld.

February 19 “The Death of the Gods and the Rise of the Spirit Life”

Rev. Brad Mitchell

Rev. Mitchell plans to take us on a journey through the death of the gods of our pasts into an embrace of the mystery, wonder and compassion that enlivens us in encounters with the Spirit of Life. The Rev. Brad Mitchell is our minister emeritus having served the congregation as minister from 1986 to 2005. He has also served as minister in Laconia, New Hampshire, Mentor, Ohio and Bangor, Maine. Music by Derek Herzer.

February 26 “An Artist in Changing Times”

Rev. Sylvia Stocker

Our Annual Longfellow Service. Yankee magazine listed Brunswick's Longfellow Days as one of the best things to do in Maine this winter, with our annual Longfellow service described as a “must do” event? Come find out why. Music by Lynn Deeves. (Learn more about Lynn on page 4.)

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



This month in RE, we are exploring Christianity. Our story of focus is The Prodigal Son, which is one of the parables of Jesus and is found in the Bible

(Luke 15:11-32). A parable is a brief allegorical story designed to illustrate a moral lesson. Parables were an important part of the teachings of Jesus. The word parable derives from a Hebrew word which also means riddle. Parables were a common method of teaching in Hebrew culture during the time of Jesus.

In this parable, a father has two sons. His younger son asks for his portion of the inheritance early. His father gives it to him and he completely squanders it. He is left destitute and alone. Since he assumes that his father has disowned him, he decides that his only option is to return to his father and beg to be taken on as a hired servant. Much to his surprise, his father not only welcomes him back, but throws a huge party to celebrate his return. The oldest son becomes angry that his father throws a party for his brother who behaved so foolishly and recklessly while he stayed home and was trustworthy and responsible. The father reminds the older son that one day he will inherit everything that is left but that they should celebrate the younger son's return because they thought he had been lost to them forever.

The story of the Prodigal Son can prompt us to think about the ideas of compassion and love. The following are some questions that you can reflect upon if you wish either with your family or on your own:

- What does it mean to have compassion?
- Have you ever been moved to have compassion toward someone who wronged you?
- Is there a connection between compassion and forgiveness?
- This story is about unconditional love. Is there ever a time when it is appropriate to draw the line? If so, under what circumstances?

If you decide to spend some time thinking over those questions, I hope you gain some insight into yourself. The stories and teaching of the world religions are valuable tools for self-reflection and growth and that's one reason why we spend time learning about them in the RE program.

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

Feb 05: RE classes, youth group

Feb 12: RE classes, youth group

Feb 19: RE classes

Feb 26: RE classes

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Howard Zinn once wrote: "To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness. What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places—and there are so many—where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction."

"And if we do act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory."

I don't know about you, but I have bumped up against powerful anguish and despair in recent weeks. Some of the anguish and despair is my own; much of it comes from others. I understand. Our world has been turned on its head by the Presidential election. No one – not even the "winners" – have a clear sense of where our country is headed or a clear vision of the future.

Yet Howard Zinn speaks of a history of compassion, sacrifice, courage, and kindness. Indeed, I see those qualities in spades all around me. Among other things, our mission to be a spiritual community that welcomes all, nurtures one another, works for justice, and cares for the earth is based on all of those qualities.

Compassion, sacrifice, courage, and kindness.

When the struggles and suffering of others – or even ourselves – touches our hearts, are we not moved to extend the hand of compassion, the voice of comfort, the face of listening and understanding?

Do we not sacrifice our time, energies, comfort, and riches (such as they are!) to help others and to build the world, the beloved community, we want the children of tomorrow to inherit?

When difficulty arises, when morals and ethics are compromised, when injustice flourishes, does not courage inspire us to raise our voices to speak truth to power? Does not courage infuse the energy we spend addressing wrongs? Even when we are afraid, we help each other to find ways to move forward together.

And kindness. Dear me, but the world seems an unkind place right now, as anger spews in all directions and from all sides. But there is great kindness, too. I

see it every day – in the news, on the street, and in this congregation.

Think about this true story. Months ago, 79-year-old John McGraw, a white man and Trump voter, was arrested when he attacked 27-year-old Rakeem Jones, a black man and Clinton voter, at a Trump rally.

At the hearing months later, McGraw pleaded no contest to two misdemeanor charges of assault and battery.

When the judge asked if Jones wanted to speak, a conversation between McGraw and Jones ensued, with McGraw ultimately saying, "We got caught up in a political mess today. And we got to heal our country."

"All right, man," Jones replied.

And then the surprising thing: The two men approached each other and embraced, while those in the courtroom applauded. (See "The Last Word" in *The Week*, January 13, 2017.)

Our country is caught up in a political mess. Voices are loud and discordant. People are afraid and angry. But I believe if two men from such different social locations and from opposite ends of the political spectrum can heed the call to heal our country, then compassion, sacrifice, courage, and kindness still must be an American taproot.

Compassion, sacrifice, courage, and kindness: May we seek and celebrate those qualities in others. May we find and bring forth those qualities from within ourselves.

Love, Sylvia



I will be taking some vacation and study time from January 17 to February 20. ' sas

DAPHNE HOLDEN'S MEMORIAL SERVICE

SUNDAY, MARCH 5 AT 2PM

We will be celebrating Daphne's life in early March, and we would like to make her memorial service an elegant and special occasion. We would like to have "pretty" hors d'oeuvres served the way she would have liked them. Think "High Tea." We would also like beautiful flowers on the refreshment table and around Fellowship Hall. We will be talking to daughters Carol and Barbara to see if they have special requests for food or decoration.

Laura Whatley will soon be taking over the duties of Memorial Service Coordinator, and will be helping **Sue Michaud**, retiring coordinator, for Daphne's service. SO... during the month of February, Sue and Laura will have sign-up sheets after church services for you to offer food or punch or flowers. If you'd like to lend a helping hand in setup/cleanup, kitchen duty, punch serving, or have any ideas to make it special, contact Sue Michaud at 729-4857 or michaud_susan@comcast.net.



LYNN DEEVES

Maine singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, Lynn Deeves will be providing music for the annual Long-fellow service on February 26th.

Lynn has performed in a wide variety of venues around the Northeast since her early years as a rocker in the 1980's. Along the way, she has released 4 independent CD's and shared shows with Janis Ian, America, Ferron, Cheryl Wheeler and many others. Lynn's

original music merges folk, rock and gospel influences with her trademark soulful voice, wit and ease of being. Deeves has been described as "equal parts power and peace" and is a regular contributor here at UU church services.

Lynn will be doing a reunion concert with 2 of her old buddies, Anni Clark & Dan Merrill (*Under the Song Tree*), for our UUCB Concerts for a Cause series in October. Stay tuned for details.



BOARD REPORT

The Board is most thankful that five talented and enthusiastic members of our congregation volunteered to serve on our Pledge Drive Team. They have already met multiple times, have a schedule set, and you will be hearing from them shortly. Carol Evans and Cindy Parker are co-leaders, with Steve Loeb and Jen Hicks filling in the basic committee. Steve Musica has volunteered to be the technological consultant, as there will be opportunities for on-line pledging, automatic withdrawal pledges, as well as involved record keeping. In addition, the Finance Committee is busy working on setting our new budget for next year. The Board is most grateful to all those who are part of this process.

I also want to tell you that this year, the board is in the process of reviewing all of our church policies, (which are available for your viewing on our web site) doing one or two a month. The review is to make sure all

board members are familiar with all policies, as well as revisit the policies to make sure our current practices are in keeping with what our policy says. As a result, some policies are in the process of editing or even a total rewrite. I will alert you when there are major changes. And we have eliminated a few policies that are no longer pertinent, such as "Use of Land on Gurnet Road" which addressed the creation of a memorial garden on the land. If you have any questions, I refer you to the web site, or to speak to any board member.

We are also most proud of the work Sylvia did to organize a Standing Show of Solidarity for those attending demonstrations in Washington DC and all over the country. There was an excellent showing of UUCB members at that event the day after the inauguration. We all pledge our vigilance to watch and assess things happening nationally to honor the values of our Principles.

Mary Larson

UUCB PLEDGE DRIVE TEAM

Our Unitarian Universalist church offers a welcoming community to members, friends and visitors. It is a place where we meet others of all generations, learning and growing together. Here, we find spiritual sustenance, intellectual challenge and just plain fun. We sing, we pray, we laugh and we talk with folks we know and are getting to know. Working with others, we pursue our "...tapestry of love and action," those things we most value in an increasingly troubled world.

How would our lives be different if this church were not here? And what can we all do to ensure the liveliness and longevity of the spirit we find here? How can we provide sufficient financial support to ensure that we strengthen and replenish the important people, programs and elements which provide so much?

Your 2017 Pledge Drive Team has been thinking and talking about these very questions, with

Reverend Sylvia Stocker, with Trustee Chair Mary Larson and with each other. We are preparing to move forward in a positive, organized and helpful way. We will be talking with you about how you can help. Please stay tuned!

Your Pledge Drive Team: Cindy Parker, Carol Evans, Steve Loeb and Jenn Hicks



ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

YOU ARE INVITED TO

THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC IN MID COAST MAINE

A COMMUNITY DIALOGUE AND DISCUSSION WITH

Leah Bauer—Medical Director, Addiction Resource Center, Mid Coast Hospital
Melissa Fochesato—Director of Health Promotion, Mid Coast-Parkview Health
Joel Merry—Sheriff, Sagadahoc County

- ◆ Learn about local efforts to prevent, treat, and secure public safety in our local communities.
- ◆ Receive information about addiction resources.
- ◆ Discuss your questions and concerns with area professionals.

UUCB SANCTUARY

Sunday, February 12, 11:30am-12:30pm

Free and Open to the Public

Please invite friends

ENDING INEQUALITY

NEW HEALTHCARE FILM TO BE SHOWN AT UUCB!

NOW is the Time

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 8 AT 7PM

Fair and universal health care is one of the biggest challenges to equality in our country. Too many citizens go without healthcare due to lack of access and the very high cost of the insurance based systems in place. The Affordable Care Act has changed that for many, but not enough and those costs are rising. The ACA faces an uncertain future at the present moment. The US is nearly the last developed country in the world to find a path to providing for the health of its citizens. This leaves too many children and adults without any safety net or preventive care, which creates a burden for their lives, their communities and their employers.

Through the efforts of Bill Clark and Maine All Care, our church had the opportunity to view the film, "The Healthcare Movie," produced in 2011. The same filmmakers have now produced a feature length film, "Now Is the Time" and a shorter version for discussion groups. At the Maine AllCare website, they comment on the film this way: "The powerful movie shows core problems with the US healthcare 'system' and the

obstacles to change. Interviews with key players and archival video from Senate ACA hearings and Vermont single-payer efforts are gripping, the graphics are helpful, and the filmmakers' first person healthcare disaster stories ground the film in 2016 realities."

The End Inequality Leadership Team will be sponsoring a showing of the film and follow up discussion in March. Bill Clark will once again facilitate that discussion and update us on the important work of Maine AllCare (<http://www.maineallcare.org/index.html>) which is "...dedicated to universal, high quality and affordable health care for the people of Maine."



UUCB CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE



LIBANA

UU Church of Brunswick

Sat, March 11, 2017 @ 7:30 pm

Snow Date: Sun, March 12 @ 3pm

Internationally renowned WORLD music & dance ensemble from Boston. Libana's global repertoire covers a vast musical spectrum expressed with stunning close a cappella vocals and an impressive palette of instruments. Interweaving music, dance and story from such divergent cultures as the Balkans, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, South America and Europe.

Libana's nine recordings and three songbooks have inspired the formation and the repertoires of song circles and choruses of all ages around the globe, and their music and performances have kindled a sense of joy, strength, healing and empowerment in several generations of listeners.

Libana is an ensemble that performs worldwide as troubadours of peace-- most recently, in Bulgaria, India, and Morocco -- and that has given expression to women's experience for 35 years.

Whether moved to tears by their beautiful soaring harmonies, or lifted out of your chair by their pounding rhythms and dance, you will leave Libana's performance feeling uplifted.

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Buy them from Sue Michaud or David Roundy after church services. Also available at the church office, Gulf of Maine Books, or online at <http://libana.brownpapertickets.com>.

Proceeds from the Concerts for a Cause series raises money for church programming and local charities.



THANKS to all of you who offered housing for Libana. **Charlie and Carol Evans** will be hosting 3 of the women, and **Lisa Durell and Ann Gardner** will be hosting the other 3. Perhaps the others who volunteered can host a future artist who needs housing.



As usual, we will need refreshments for the Libana concert. Please let us know what you can bring. Sign-up sheets will be available after church services, or contact Sue Michaud, 729-4857 or michaud_susan@comcast.net

David Mallett

One of America's True Troubadours

Saturday, January 28 @ 7:30 pm

UU Church of Brunswick

Last Chance for Tickets:
Advanced \$22, At-Door \$25
Available at Church Office,
Gulf of Maine Books
or online at
brownpapertickets.com

Doors open at 7 pm



MEMBERSHIP



What a wonderful turnout for SoUUs On last Sunday! We had about 120 people stay to enjoy each other's company and eat delicious soups, breads and desserts. Thank you to everyone who made a contribution.

In the middle of the luncheon someone asked, "Why are we doing this?" Good question--which some of you may have as well! The mission of the Membership Committee is to "create the friendliest,

warmest, most welcoming congregation in Mid-Coast Maine, where soul meets soul." Although most of our efforts revolve around welcoming visitors and introducing newcomers to Unitarian Universalism and UUCB, we also organize purely social events so all members and friends can get to know one another better. Last year we welcomed Sylvia back from sabbatical with a potluck soup luncheon after church and it was so successful we decided to make it an annual event.

Circle Suppers are another purely social event that the Membership Committee orchestrates. The next round of suppers will be March 18th and 25th. These small group gatherings in the homes of UUCB members and friends provide extended time for conversation and developing those "soul to soul" connections that are so important to the life of a congregation. We hope you will consider hosting or attending a supper this spring. For more information contact Leigh Peranteau at leigh763@yahoo.com or 207-725-4874.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE



FEBRUARY CHARITY WITH SOUL INDEPENDENCE ASSOCIATION

Area families founded Independence Association in 1967 and for the past 50 years, we have stayed true to our mission to assist adults and children with disabilities in obtaining full and inclusive lives in their chosen community. We maintain our focus on quality programming in our Residential Homes and in our Home-Based and Community Support programs. We create opportunities for adults and children with disabilities to participate in our mid-coast community.

Thank you for choosing Independence Association for this donation. **One of our Community Supports programs, EnvisionME, will be using this donation to further our gardening program.**

EnvisionME encourages consumers to be as environmentally friendly as possible, while at the same time giving back to the community that supports them/us. We will use these funds for our gardening program to purchase appropriate equipment, organic fertilizer and possibly some organic loam. Our weekly cooking class that focuses on healthy eating will use the "fruits" of our labor.

Your support helps us respond to the needs and dreams of our consumers. For more information, please contact Jane Hart, Associate Director of Community Supports, at jhart@iaofmaine.org. Thank you!



WORKING FOR JUSTICE

"THANKS!" FROM STANDING ROCK

In early December Annie Bayer and Tom Barry drove an insulated truck full of provisions to the Standing Rock, Lakota Sioux Indian Reservation in North Dakota. Before leaving Maine, Annie was present at the vigil on the Brunswick Green, held in solidarity with the Lakota Sioux tribe, the hundreds of indigenous people that came from throughout North America, U.S. military veterans and large numbers of other supporters from *all* walks of life, that had come to Standing Rock in an effort to stop the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. The pipeline is intended to carry crude oil from North Dakota to Illinois, through federal land on the border of the Standing Rock Reservation, under lake Oahe, a source of fish for tribal members, and under the Missouri river, potentially threatening the only water supply to the Reservation.

Annie appealed for money to help with her and Tom's travel expenses delivering the full truck full of food, warm clothing and supplies....to use any money remaining to buy wood or propane for the Reservation. Once they arrived, the truck was to be donated to the Reservation by the owners of the Dandelion Spring and Straw farms in Newcastle.

On the Sunday following the vigil an opportunity was offered those attending a worship service at UUCB to make a donation of money to help Annie and Tom. \$181 was donated.

Around the same time, on December fifth, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced that the pipeline construction must be stopped until an Environmental Impact assessment study was done. Many protesters left but many stayed and remain to endure the harsh North Dakota winter, not trusting the outcome *not* to threaten their sacred land and their only water supply. The Environmental Impact Statement wasn't officially filed until January 17th... fear, anger and uncertainly remain.

Annie and Tom have returned home to Newcastle and bring "Thanks!" and gratitude for the compassionate generosity of those who contributed money and for the support they received.

It is important now to pay attention and not let the current lull in the Standing Rock proceedings keep us from doing everything we can to prevent harm, injustices done to Native people and to protect the sacred tribal land, water and people of the Standing Rock Lakota Sioux Nation.



*With thanks from the
Working For Justice
Steering Committee*

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

MUUSAN NETWORK MEETING—JANUARY 14, 2017

The energy for UU legislative ministry in Maine continues to grow! **Forty-two people from 15 congregations** attended this regular meeting at the UU Community Church of Augusta. **Faith Woodman & Sue Kennedy attended on behalf of UUCB.**



Guest speaker Sen. Shenna Bellows (Manchester) opened by focusing on the unique role for MUUSAN as a faith-based organization working with legislators to promote humane values in the legislature. UU congregants have a very important role in lifting up one another, but also in lifting up elected officials. At the State House, tremendous anxiety and doubt are pervasive. As people of faith and religious progressives, we are called to reinforce the vision of our democracy and what it can be; not give in to dread or discouragement; do all we can to preserve the health and well-being of all our people, our families, and our earth; and articulate a clear moral vision.

The Senator advised us on bills of interest which have been introduced in MUUSAN's three areas and on the need for people of faith to call out the moral dimensions of the budget. Communicating with legislators, both national and state, is essential; call a legislator every chance you want to. Please refer to the moral dimension

repeatedly, including protesting immoral acts. Sens. King and Collins are both in very influential positions within the Congress. When you contact them, articulate your story and include a solution. Stories penetrate. In the state legislature, **e-mail** is still very important, as many state legislators are still reading their e-mails. Whole-congregation communications with legislators are very influential! Sen. Bellows reminded us to **sustain and support our allies**, the folks may be feeling tired or fearful. **Our voices matter so much.** Many thanks to Sen. Bellows for her uplifting and informative visit.

MAINE WOMEN'S MARCH:

Saturday, Jan. 21, 10:00-noon

Augusta. We will meet on the plaza between the State House and Cross Office Building. Betsy Parsons will be there with the MUUSAN banner by 9:15. Please bring your congregational banners and your signs and join the MUUSAN banner to make a large UU contingent as we do at PRIDE Parades. **Faith & others from UUCB will be there with the UUCB banner!!**

ISSUE GROUPS

for Climate Change (Faith joined), Health Care (Sue joined) and Democracy met and reported out.

THANK YOU TO LYNN ELLIS

of UU Church of Brunswick for leading a MUUSAN service at the First Universalist Church of West Paris. When may MUUSAN lead a service at your church?

SUPPORTING MUUSAN:

Invite your congregation to consider a MUUSAN line item in its annual budget. **At UUCB the Working for Justice group makes an annual donation.** Individual donations are important also.

NEXT MEETING DATES: March 11 and the Spring Conference/Annual Meeting May 13.

*Faith Woodman and
Renee Manomatis at the
Maine Women's March In Augusta*



WOMEN'S MARCH

**THE BRUNSWICK VIGIL WAS ORGANIZED BY UUCB.
WHAT A SUCCESS!**



WOMEN'S MARCH

IN BUNSWICK



And Many More....

WOMEN'S MARCH

IN AUGUSTA, FLAGSTAFF, AND D.C.



Matthea Daughtry
In Augusta



Cordelia & Hadley Horch
In D.C.



Anita, Zoe & Calla Ruff in D.C.



Marlene Oliver in Augusta



Andrea & Skip Brimlow in Flagstaff



Marsey & Gemma Caswell
in Augusta



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

Jerry Blodgett



Jerry Blodgett has enjoyed writing and performing his songs for over 40 years. He performs frequently at the Side Door Open Mike and has appeared at other local venues such as the Chocolate Church in Bath and Orion Performing Arts Center in Topsham. He writes songs about the Maine he knew long ago, the Maine he sees today—

Kathleen McGee

Kathleen McGee started singing at a age 5, and professionally since 14. Along with originals, Kathleen loves to find nuggets of music by new artists and putting new spins on older songs. She plays an eclectic blend of blues, indie, alternative, folk and even a bit of pop and rock. Kathleen new performs mostly around the Midcoast of Maine both as a solo artist and singing backup harmonies for some great



Friday Evening, February 17

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Larry Lemmel, Piano



**Sunday, February 5
11:30 am**

All Robert Schumann Program
Admission Free

WOMEN'S ALLIANCE DISBANDS

The Women's Alliance will no longer be meeting. With the many, many initiatives and opportunities that are part of our church community, the Alliance membership has found its energies traveling in a myriad of positive directions, with activities often overlapping, and with demands on time increasingly an issue. Hopefully, the women of UUCB will gather for a meal or coffee occasionally to maintain the fellowship that we have enjoyed so much! The organization's remaining funds have been donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

PLANT-POWERED POTLUCK



The UUCB Plant-Powered Potluck will be held on **Sunday, February 19**, at 12 noon in Fellowship Hall.

Come share delicious plant-based food and camaraderie with us and explore a plant-based diet as a pathway to better health for our bodies and our planet.

Sorry, no drop-ins, but if you are planning to come, please RSVP to Deborah Zorach at dszorach@gwi.net or 729-8103 by **Thursday, February 16**.

If you are new to plant-based eating and would like to know more about its benefits and suggestions for recipes, a good site to check out is www.forksoverknives.com.

MEN'S LUNCHEON Wed, February 22

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.

SUNDAY PEANUT BUTTER AND JAM

Canceled for February

Our monthly Peanut Butter and Jam session is canceled for February but **will resume in March**.



Love,
Sylvia

FEBRUARY 2017

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Rev. Stocker on vacation from January 27 to February 20 | | | 1 11 RENTAL SRF Meditation: WBR 2 Music Class: SAN | 2 10 Rental Committee: MSR 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 7 Choir: SAN | 3 Teford Shelter Meal | 4 10 AA Rental: MSR Office Closed |
| 5 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes 11:30 Newcomers Chat: WBR 11:30 Larry Lemmel Piano Concert: SAN Green Sanctuary: MSR Office Closed | 6 4 Working for Justice: MSR | 7 4 Membership: MSR 5 Staff: WBR 6:30 Worship: MSR 7 RE Committee: MBR 7 Concert Committee: WBR | 8 12:30 Chalice Circle: WBR 2 Music Class: SAN (Snow Make-up) 3 Writers: MSR | 9 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 7 Indigenous People's Day: MBR 7 Choir: SAN | 10 4 End Inequality: MSR | 11 10 AA Rental: MSR Office Closed |
| 12 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes 11:30 Intern Committee: WBR 11:30 Adult Ed Presentation: SAN Office Closed | 13 5:30 AllCare: WBR Office Closed | 14 10 Chalice Circle: WBR 4:30 Finance: MSR 6:30 Stories: WBR 7:30 Pastoral Care: MSR | 15 11 RENTAL SRF Meditation: WBR 3 Poetry with Barkley: WBR 6 Chalice Circle: WBR 6:30 New Mainer's | 16 11 Wabanaki REACH: MSR 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 7 Choir: SAN | 17 7:00 Side Door Coffeeshouse: Jerry Blodgett & Kathleen McGee 5 Parish Messenger Deadline | 18 10 AA Rental: MSR Office Closed |
| 19 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes 12 Plant Powered Potluck: FEL 12 Chalice Circle: WBR Office Closed | 20 President's Day | 21 2 Savvy Caretakers: WBR 6:30 Board: MSR | 22 12 Men's Luncheon 3 Writers: MSR | 23 9:30 Memoir Writing: WBR 10:30 Building & Grounds: MSR 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 7 Choir: SAN | 24 Longellow's Birthday Party | 25 10 AA Rental: MSR Office Closed |
| 26 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes Office Closed | 27 Office Closed | 28 6:30 Stories: WBR | 1 11 RENTAL SRF Meditation: WBR | SAN = Sanctuary FEL = Fellowship Hall WBR = Wendall Berry Room MSR = May Sarton Room MBR = Merrymeeting Bay Room RE = All RE Space HIL = Hildebrandt Room CAR = Carson Room MAN = Mandela Room CL = Curtis Library Seminar | | |

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 March Parish Messenger is **Friday, February 17th**.