

Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church
of Brunswick



April, 2017

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The Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick

Rev. Sylvia Stocker, Minister

Rev. J. Bradbury Mitchell,
Minister Emeritus

Nicole Boutilier,
Director of Religious Education

Stephanie Bernier, Music Coordinator

Heidi Neufeld, Choir Director

Derek Herzer, Choir Accompanist

Shirley Bernier, Office Administrator

Tony Sulkoski, Sexton

Claire Curole, Ministerial Intern

Dan Ellis, Webmaster

SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10AM

April 2 "Seeds for a New Creation"

Rev. Sylvia Stocker

This month, our Sunday school kids are studying creation stories from multiple sources. Nothing evokes the feeling of mystery more than the question of how and where it all began. As the song lyrics ask, "Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going? Mystery, mystery, life is a riddle and a mystery." What if we are part of creation, which is ongoing? What does that mean for us? Rev. Stocker preaching. Music by the choir directed by Heidi Neufeld and accompanied by Derek Herzer.

April 9 "Mud Time"

Claire Curole

Transformation is a messy process, full of uncertainty and waiting on the edge of the unknown. Liminal time - the boundaries between day and night, the edge of the seasons, waiting for a birth or a death or a resurrection - is where the holy stories happen. Music by Derek Herzer.

April 13 Maundy Thursday Communion Service

6:30pm

Every year, the UUCB ministers collaborate in a communion service in memory of the Last Supper. In a service both simple and mystical, we contemplate what it means to serve in the deepest sense, and, together with the congregation, we offer up our prayers for the world. All are welcome. Special music by Louise Gephart.

April 16 Easter Sunday

Rev. Sylvia Stocker

Join us as we celebrate rebirth and renewal. We'll deck out the sanctuary with festive flowers (see article on page 10 to learn how you can contribute to our congregational "bouquet"). We'll also listen to our fabulous choir conducted by Heidi Neufeld and Derek Herzer, and, of course, we'll sing!

April 23 Earth Day "Seeds of Change"

Rev. Sylvia Stocker and
the Green Sanctuary Committee

Change is hard, but if we want to preserve and protect our beautiful Earth, change is necessary. Come listen to stories of change. Come to ponder changes you can make in your own life. Music by Larry Lemmel, Kate Gray, and Hugh Maynard.

April 30 "The Wabanaki Perspective: What We See as Truth"

Roger Paul

The Working for Justice Steering Group welcomes Roger Paul, Passamaquoddy/Maliseet, a teacher of Wabanaki languages at tribal schools in Maine and at the University of Maine. Roger facilitates healing circles with Native men in Maine's prisons and works actively to preserve and support the continuing growth and prosperity of the Wabanaki language, culture and people. Music by Lynn Deeves.

Please join Roger in the May Sarton Room following the service at 11:30 for further conversation about his work and the current concerns of Wabanaki people.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Nearly every culture has a foundational creation myth- a story that explains how and why the earth and all its inhabitants came to be. These myths create a paradigm through which the members of a particular culture see the world, process

information, and understand their relationship to the rest of creation. I find it fascinating to read these stories- to try to take a look at the world through the eyes of another culture. When examining a creation story from a culture different from our own, we can gain insight, in a broad sense, into various cultural practices. A deeper examination of our own cultural creation myths can also serve to deepen the understanding of why the culture in which we live, operates the way it does.

The creation myths of indigenous cultures typically have humans in a sacred relationship with the rest of creation. These stories tend to guide people into harmonious interaction with the earth and nonhuman animals. An emphasis is placed on the interconnectedness of life. Other stories, such as the Jewish and Christian creation story from Genesis, tell a different type of tale. Theirs is a story in which humans are at the pinnacle of creation and are given “dominion” over the rest; that humans are somehow different from other creatures because they were created in the image of God. While there are many common elements in creation myths from cultures all over the world, it can be these subtle differences that have had a huge impact on the world as we know it today. On one end of the spectrum, the former type of creation myth has led to cultures that are deeply connected to the cycles of the seasons, live as part of nature, and change little with the passage of time. On the other end of the spectrum the latter type of creation myth has led to colonization, the development of science technology, rapid change, and the quest to live above the rules of nature

(<http://www.newstories.org/stories-lab/fundamental-understandings-2/meta-stories-2/creation-stories/>).

This month in Religious Education we will be exploring creation myths. Perhaps this month you might want to join us on this exploration by examining your own beliefs about creation. What is the primary creation myth of your culture and how has it influenced the way you live? What are the pros and cons of the cultural practices that have resulted from these myths? If you have a little extra time, do a quick Google search to find some other examples of creation myths. What types of creation myths resonate with you the most? What elements of these myths do you want to inform the way you choose to live? Have fun exploring!

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

April 02: RE classes, Youth Group

April 09: RE classes, Youth Group

April 16: Multi-Age Activity (school vacation)

April 23: Multi-Age Activity (school vacation)

April 30: RE classes, Youth Group

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

My parents were pillars of my childhood church in Canton, Massachusetts. Even though my parents have been dead for many years, people in that congregation still remember them. On the rare occasions when I am able to visit that church, I am treated like royalty because I am Bob and Mary Lou's daughter.

Between the two of them, my parents must have served on every committee. In addition, my mother edited the newsletter, wrote Christmas plays for the Sunday school to act out, and conducted the junior choir (sometimes with me accompanying on guitar, which was not always the wisest choice).

Their church involvement had been lifelong, although they didn't find first Universalism and then Unitarianism until they were young parents raising a family. The youngest child of four, I was christened at the Abington, Massachusetts, Universalist church, where my father had served as superintendent of the Sunday School for a while. But it is the Canton church I remember – the church that helped to raise me, that helped me to find my voice, that loved me steadily, no matter what, and even during the times of my youth when I felt the most unlovable.

So I grew up living and breathing the kind of effort and generosity required to run a church. And I grew up knowing the value of such a special community. I understood, from the earliest of ages, that church is something that happens when everyone works to *make* it happen. Where it came to money, I knew my parents gave as generously as they could, although they never discussed the particulars with me until I had to take over running their financial affairs.

So often we don't discuss the particulars when it comes to giving to our churches. Or, perhaps we discuss the wrong particulars. We get sidetracked by statistics. (How much does it cost per person to run the church? How much do we have to pay per member for our UUA dues? How much do I owe?)

While the answers to such questions can be interesting and informative, in the end, those answers don't provide reasons for giving. We give because of what we feel in our hearts.

Over the years, my own pledging to churches has had to fluctuate wildly along with my changing financial circumstances. Sometimes a \$100 dollar annual pledge has been beyond my means. Other times my finances

have been more secure. In choosing a pledge amount, I've had to balance ability to pay with love of church and simply give as generously as possible.

Why generously? Because of what I feel in my heart. Because church is one of the few remaining institutions where adults and children of all ages gather and sing together. Because church is where my passion for justice, fairness, and equality can take to flight alongside others who care about the same things I care about. Because church provides a community for growing, caring, and challenge. Because church upholds the sacredness of all life. Because church gives me a place to look deeply into my heart and to ponder the greater mystery that holds all of us. Because church puts love first.

Because I love my church.

This year, as we determine what kind of pledge matches our feelings about church, may we ponder the world we live in, the challenges we live with, and the opportunity UUCB provides for comfort, challenge, connection, inspiration, earth care, justice work, and community building. When you think about those things, I hope you will find, as I have, that UUCB provides a wellspring from which you can draw a healing draught and that you will want to give as generously as you are able.

Love,
Sylvia



NEWS FROM YOUR PLEDGE DRIVE TEAM



Each year, our members and friends make an annual financial commitment, or pledge, as a means of living our covenant. Our theme this year is “Living Our Values”. You can help us sustain the important work of our church through your pledge.

For 2017-2018, we anticipate it will cost over **\$292,000** to operate our church. After other sources of income, we need to raise **\$238,000** in pledges.

This will allow us to ...

- pay all our staff a fair wage according to UUA salary scales.
- prepare for unanticipated changes or events which will impact our budget.
- nurture our inclusive church community to make the world a better, kinder place.
- operate our building for all the growing purposes to which it is dedicated.

How much should I pledge?

The amount you choose is a very personal decision. It helps to think about what the church means in your life and how the spiritual and personal connections you make here align with your values and beliefs. Your giving should reflect your life priorities as much as your pocket- book. If it helps, the box to the right shows actual pledge numbers for 2016-2017. (Remember that a single pledge often represents a household, or two members.)

Actual pledges 2016-17:

Above \$5000	= 6
\$3000 to \$4999	= 10
\$2,000 to \$2999	= 22
\$1000 to \$1999	= 40
\$500 to \$999	= 30
\$200 to \$499	= 25
Under \$100	= 15
Total:	148
(Membership	= 199)

How do I pledge?

You complete a Pledge Form with your name, address, pledge amount and signature. The form indicates whether you are choosing to pay by check or automatic bank payment.

You may also pledge online at www.uubrunswick.org/online-pledging/

When does my pledge need to be paid?

Your pledge may be paid weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually.

Our pledges are the financial foundation for the coming year. Your commitment to full payment is as important as the pledge itself. Pledges must be received during the fiscal year from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

What is a canvass visit?

A canvass is a church-wide, face to face visit from a UUCB volunteer who has been trained in the best ways to start a conversation with you about the church, so that you may make a decision about your pledge. This year, those visits will occur between April 3 and 17. Our volunteers will be connecting with folks who have not yet pledged as of April 1. These conversations are not really about asking for money so much as building new relationships and a stronger UUCB community. Canvass visits are informal conversations in settings of your choice. Pledging information is always private so that both canvassers and the members being visited can be comfortable building friendships and sharing ideas about the church.

THE ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TASK FORCE INVITES YOU TO

A FILM AND DISCUSSION ABOUT

MAINE HOUSE BILL LD347 “DEATH WITH DIGNITY”

PRESENTER

VALERIE LOVELACE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF *IT’S MY DEATH*

a Maine nonprofit whose mission is to help people connect death and dying as a part of living authentically.

- Receive a copy of Maine’s proposed “Death with Dignity” bill
- Discuss the bill’s political chances in the Maine Legislature
- See and discuss a short film on the subject

UUCB SANCTUARY
Sunday, April 2, 11:30am-12:30pm
Free and Open to the Public
Please invite friends

MEMBERSHIP

CIRCLE SUPPERS

Thank you, Leigh Peranteau, for orchestrating yet another successful round of circle suppers. Here are the impressive stats: 5 dinners, 1 luncheon, 10 hosts, 37 people! What a great opportunity for members and friends to get to know one another better--don't miss it when it comes 'round again next year!

YOU AND UU CLASS

Save the Date

APRIL 22

Our next You and UU class will be held April 22 from 8:30 am to 1:00pm. This Saturday class, led by Membership Committee members and Rev. Stocker is designed to introduce newcomers to Unitarian Universalism and UUCB. It is strongly recommended for anyone considering official membership. If interested in attending, or learning more about this class, please call the church office at 729-8515, or stop by the Visitor's Table on Sunday.

INTO THE BELLY OF THE BEAST!

ADVOCATING FOR CLEAN AIR LEGISLATION IN WASHINGTON, DC

March 8 and 9 I visited Washington, DC, to advocate for clean air legislation on behalf of Interfaith Power & Light. (Interfaith Power & Light's mission statement is: "to be faithful stewards of Creation by responding to global warming through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy.") My partner was Sister Jackie Moreau, a Sister of Mercy based in the Portland area. Sister Jackie and I met with Senators Collins and (briefly) King. We also met with environmental staffers for each senator and for Chellie Pingree, and we dropped off literature at Bruce Poliquin's office.

Washington was enjoying some lovely spring weather. Americans from all over the country had poured into the city to visit their elected officials. I was impressed by the level of caring I witnessed, both on the part of America's citizenry and on the part of our Maine delegation. (This would be a moment to remind myself that someone may disagree with my opinions and convictions, but that doesn't necessarily mean they don't care.) (It also doesn't necessarily mean I am right and they are wrong.)

For me, the trip was a first. First time I've ever met my senators face-to-face on their turf... or, at all. First time working with Interfaith Power & Light, although I have known of and appreciated their work for many years.

Truly, I don't know how votes for environmental legislation in general or clean air legislation in particular will go. In today's political climate, I am

not optimistic. But I can tell you I was heartened to see so many people visiting their representatives and senators, so many people trying to help democracy do what it is meant to do: represent the voice of the people.

Sylvia Stocker



Sister Jackie Moreau and Rev. Stocker waiting to go through security at the Dirksen Building in Washington, DC, where they met with Maine senators and their staff to advocate for clean air legislation.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEAD A SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE AT UUCB?

During the summer, when Rev. Stocker takes a well-deserved break, the UUCB Worship Committee provides a series of meaningful lay led services to keep us connected, to inspire us, and to invite new and/or different voices into the pulpit to share their thoughts and ideas.

The Worship Committee is beginning the planning process and wants to know if you (members and friends) have the desire and willingness to lead a service this summer? Those of you who have done this before are, of course, invited to return. Members and/or friends who have had some related experience speaking to groups or leading worship in other churches may also be considered. Volunteer worship leaders will be mentored through the entire process by a Worship Associate who will help with the planning and implementation of your service. Summer services this year officially

begin on June 25th and run thru September 3rd. Rev. Stocker will be preaching several Sundays in July, but will be away from the pulpit in August. The dates lay leaders will be needed in the pulpit are: **July 2, August 6, August 13, August 20, and September 3.**

If you have an idea (or a question) for a service, please jot it down and send it along to Worship Committee members Pat Harris at pjbharris@aol.com or Cindy Parker at cindyparker48@gmail.com. Any member of the worship committee will be happy to talk with you about the details of leading worship. Please submit your ideas, questions, or requests by 5p.m., Tuesday, May 2nd, so that the committee can set the summer schedule at their May meeting.

Pat Harris, Susan Snow, Dan Ellis, Carol Briggs, Louise Gephart, Stephanie Bernier, Anne Merrifield and, Cindy Parker – Your 2017 UUCB Worship Associates.

UUCB LANDSCAPE 2017

Finally, spring is here! Some of the 900 bulbs that were planted last fall *were* beginning to show their crowns...then we had 18 inches of snow! But marching onward, keep your eyes open as 7 varieties of bulbs welcome the arrival of warmer weather. We will soon be adding low growing junipers to the arrangement of stones at the NW corner and pruning the Rosa rugosa so it will be ready for new bushy growth. The rugosa suckers will be removed so if you have any interest in them for your own garden, please let me know. In the future we will be on the lookout for plant specimens from your own gardens to add to the gardens at UUCB and will provide more information along those lines in the next Messenger.. For questions, comments and info please contact Cuffy Chase by email at cmc1322@gmail.com or cell phone at 207-504-4942.

PLANT-POWERED POTLUCK

Please join us at the UUCB Plant-Powered Potluck after church on **Sunday, April 16**, 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 plan to come, please **RSVP** to Eileen Manglass at 207-653-0776 or emanglass@hotmail.com by **Thursday, April 13**.

If you are new to plant-based eating and would like to know more about its benefits and suggestions for recipes, go to www.forksoverknives.com.



MEN'S LUNCHEON

Wed, April 26

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.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION TRAINING AT UUCB— PAST AND FUTURE

Close to 50 people attended the *Communication Where Everyone Matters* workshop with Peggy Smith at the church on Sunday, March 19. Participants found the experience meaningful, relevant, challenging and fun - *just the beginning* in the development of nonviolent communication skills and practice. If you were there on the 19th or not, and if you wish to deepen your knowledge and ability to use nonviolent communication in your life, Peggy is offering a more intensive training at UUCB on Friday and Saturday, June 2 and 3. Working for Justice Steering Group encourages people to take this training. *How we talk and listen to each other, matters...now more than ever!*

See the information in the flyer below. Note that the fee is sliding scale if needed.

Communication Where Everyone Matters: The Art of Nonviolent Communication

Save the
Date

With Peggy Smith, certified trainer

June 2 & 3, 2017

Friday, June 2—6:30pm-8:30pm

Saturday June—9:00am-4:00pm

An hour for lunch on Saturday,
bring your own or enjoy a variety
of local eateries.

Location: 1 Middle St, Brunswick



- Learn ways to connect with yourself and others, even during times of conflict and stress
- Learn to hear the “Yes” inside every conflict
- Learn how to say and hear “No” with compassion and authenticity
- Gain skills in connecting, even with people you disagree with
- Bring more authenticity into your relationships

**You will leave this workshop with practical concepts and skills
you can put to immediate use.**

Fee Request: \$150 (sliding scale available)

FMI and Registration: <http://opencommunication.org/schedule.html>

WORKING FOR JUSTICE



spindleworks

APRIL CHARITY WITH SOUL

SPINDLEWORKS

(an art-based day program for adults with disabilities)



Independence
Association



Created by Independence Association in 1978, Spindleworks offers art supplies, studio and gallery space in a nurturing environment to artists with disabilities.

Artistic exploration, community engagement, personal growth and personal expression are fostered through workshops, visits from local artists, and an environment of constant learning. In this supportive atmosphere, the artists are given responsibility and creative license, encouraged to make good choices and collaborate with one another. This engagement is focused on developing social and peer leadership skills, confidence and self-esteem. Skill-building that supports independence in daily life is gained through participating in their artistic pursuits.

Exhibiting regularly throughout southern and midcoast Maine, the Spindleworks artists have gained a respected place in the state's diverse artistic community.

Spindleworks currently supports 45 member artists working in a historic building just off Maine Street. The facility includes a three season pottery studio, sculpture studio, weaving rooms, darkroom, painting and drawing studios, as well as areas for sewing and textile arts. Artists have access to computers, still and video cameras, and are encouraged to express themselves using the written word as well visual means.

The artwork created in the Spindleworks studios is sold in the store and gallery as well as at other events and exhibits throughout the year. The artists earn 75% from the sale of their work.

CHARITIES WITH SOUL ANNOUNCEMENT

A long-standing tradition in our congregation is to donate part of the plate donations to local charities. Each fiscal year church members nominate their favorite non-profits which are then voted on by the congregation. In the past, the top 10 organizations voted on by the congregation become the recipients of our monthly Charities with Soul Program (*In addition we've had a covenant with **Habitat for Humanity** and the **Midcoast Hunger Prevention Program** to always be included in the program.*)

Each month one of the selected organizations receives 50% of the plate donations for the first four Sundays in a month. If there are five Sundays in a month, the plate offering goes to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

Working for Justice voted in January to increase the

covenant number of charities we automatically support from TWO to SIX -- adding **Tedford Housing, Oasis Free Clinic, The Gathering Place, and Four Directions Development Corporation**. Since UUCB, along with a number of other area churches, and UUA in the case of Four Directions, was involved in the formation of these charitable organizations, it made sense to include them in the Charities with Soul program every year.

This action deepens our relationship with these organizations and enhances our commitment to them. So beginning on April 9 the congregation is asked to fill out the nomination form to choose the remaining 6 organizations to be voted on in May. The nomination form can be found in this newsletter and will also be available in the orders of worship on April 9, 16 and 23rd.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

2017-2018 Charities with Soul Nomination Form

UUCB shares its Sunday collection plate each month with a charity whose work supports our mission statement. The congregation nominates and votes on the Charities with Soul each church year.

It is time to nominate and select the Charities with Soul for 2017-2018 Nominations will take place for three Sundays in April (April 9, April 16, April 23). All nominations ballots must be into the church office by Tuesday, April 25. To nominate an organization, (adding it to the ballot of charities which the congregation will vote on), please fill out the form on the other side of this sheet.

The congregation will vote on the list of nominated charities on Sunday, May 7 and Sunday, May 14. These ballots will be due into the church office by Tuesday, May 16. The final list will be announced at the annual meeting in June and in the June Parish Messenger.

Please put your completed form in the box labeled "Charities with Soul Nominations" at the rear of the sanctuary. Extra forms are beside the box if you need more than one. Many thanks!

Name of the organization: _____

1. What does this organization do? Whom does it serve? _____

2. How does this organization support the UUCB mission statement? _____

3. How would UUCB contributions be used? _____

4. When was this organization formed, and what can you say about its continuing effectiveness in the future? _____

Please give us your name and email or phone number should we need to contact with questions.

Name: _____

Phone number or email address: _____

EASTER FLOWERS



We usher in Easter and Spring with a festive array of colorful flowers. If you would like to contribute to the decorations, please use the form below to order a plant (or plants). If you would like, you may dedicate your plant(s) in memory or celebration of someone. The Worship Committee will order the flowers from Skillins at a reduced rate and arrange them in the sanctuary for Easter morning. After the Easter service, you are free to take your flowers home.

Please fill out and return the following form along with your payment (checks made out to UUCB) to the church office by **Tuesday, April 4.**

Thank you,
Sylvia Stocker

Flower	How Many?	Price	Extended Price (# ordered times the price)	What Color? (Tulips Only)	Dedication
Tulips: 6" pots Choose color: <i>pink, yellow, red, white, or purple</i>		\$7.99			
Daffodils: 6" pots		\$7.99		XXXXXXXX	
Tête-à-têtes: 3" pots		\$3.20		XXXXXXXX	
Narcissus: 6" pots		\$7.99		XXXXXXXX	
TOTAL: (Add <i>Extended Price</i> column) <i>Make checks out to UUCB</i>					



WORKING FOR JUSTICE

MU.....WHO? MUUSAN

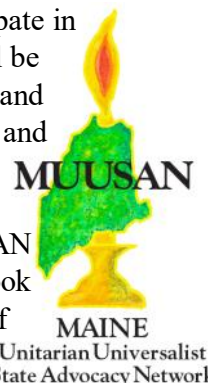
2017 MARCH MEETING

You are in for a treat if you are only now beginning to learn about the Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network! Begun in 2012, the 15th state to create a State Advocacy Network. Existing now in 25 states, MUUSAN was created, as were others, to form a legislative “ministry” with collaborative power to influence legislation that promotes just, humane laws and policy in keeping with our seven UU principles. SANetworks meld UU’s, kindred spirits and partner organizations into statewide communities of effective voices for justice. I’ve paraphrased from the MUUSAN website here.

At the recent MUUSAN meeting in the Augusta UU church, Pat Moore, Faith Woodman and I joined a room full of vibrant representatives from 16 other Maine UU churches. The sense of sincere commitment to a shared moral purpose was palpable and inspiring. We broke into our small interest groups (Climate, Democracy in Action and Health Care) to share information, knowledge and ideas. We also discussed what priorities for advocacy or action to bring back to the full group before the meeting ended. The agenda at this meeting ended with a proposal to the full group to create an ad-

ditional interest group, Immigration. A planning group of enthusiastic MUUSAN’s were recruited on the spot to bring ideas and recommendations to the MUUSAN annual meeting in May.

I’m hoping if you are still reading, you will do yourself a favor by going to the creative MUUSAN website. Spend some time looking at each of the excellent links. Take your time...so you don’t miss the fun slide shows of photos at the end of several links. When you finish, I think you will feel great pride and maybe, a level of enthusiasm and interest that will make you eager to attend and participate in future MUUSAN meetings. You will be welcomed by a friendly group, open and receptive to what particular passions and ideas you wish to share! And definitely do yourself another favor by signing up to receive ongoing MUUSAN Information. (There are links to facebook and email alerts on the cover page of website www.muusan.org.)



Submitted by *Sue Kennedy*, UUCB, MUUSAN rep.

THE WABANAKI PERSPECTIVE: WHAT WE SEE AS TRUTH

APRIL 30TH WORSHIP SERVICE



The Working for Justice Steering Group is pleased to welcome Roger Paul, Passamaquoddy/Maliseet, to speak at the Sunday worship service on April 30. Roger grew up in several different tribal communities in Maine and New Brunswick where he spoke the local Wabanaki dialects. He began learning English around the age of five. Roger currently teaches Wabanaki languages at tribal schools in Maine and at the University of Maine. He facilitates healing circles with Native men in Maine’s prisons and works actively to preserve and support the continuing growth and prosperity of the Wabanaki language, culture and people. We will have the opportunity to talk informally with Roger in the May Sarton Room following the service where he has generously offered to answer questions and talk further about the concerns of

Wabanaki people in Maine. Please join the conversation and help to welcome Roger to our church community.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

UU Church of Brunswick's Working for Justice Group & League of Women Voters of Brunswick Area Present



April 19, 2017 at 6:30 pm

Unitarian Universalist Church, One Middle Street in Brunswick

Join us for a screening of the film *Equal Means Equal*. This award winning documentary looks at the state of women in the U.S. today, examines laws that claim to protect women and presents the case for ratifying the Equal Rights Amendment.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD

OFFERING OF LETTERS—April 9th

Spring is the time again to join forces with other faith based groups to communicate with our congressional representatives regarding the moral imperative to fund and not undo programs that help prevent hunger and poverty. For two years now, many of us in the UUCB congregation have participated in, Bread For The World's, Offering of Letters, taking the opportunity to ask for uncompromising support for the creation, sustaining and funding of programs that prevent and alleviate hunger. This year the organizations primary effort and priority is being given to monitoring the new administrations actions, to protect particularly, those anti-hunger programs that already exist, from being discontinued or de funded.

On April 9th, after the worship service, the Working For Justice Steering committee will have all the material you will need to write a short, persuasive letter to your Senator and Representative requesting their intention to do whatever possible to adequately fund and protect anti-hunger programs. In 2015, in our own state of Maine,

according to the United State Dept. of Agriculture, one in six Mainers and sadly, one in four children experienced "food insecurity". This means they live without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food... so great urgency exists as these high rates of hunger and poverty continue to do widespread harm. Therefore, the Federal anti-hunger programs that assist the states in any way are essential.

We hope you will plan to stay after the worship service on April 9th to use your influence on behalf of the more vulnerable among us.

Working For Justice Steering committee



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE

MIDCOAST VOICES FOR DEMOCRACY

On Wednesday, March 8 UUCB and Midcoast Voices for Democracy joined in Action 4 of 10 Actions in 100 Days in honor of International Day of Women and Women's History month. One hundred fifty community members listened to stories of famous women who have influenced the rights of women throughout the past 100 years of history.



Local women singing—

When all the women in the world have their eyes set on freedom.
When all the women in the world dream the sweet dream of peace.
When all the women in the world in every nation, each generation hold hands in the name of love there will be no more war.



Midcoast Voices for Democracy supports local actions for equity, justice, and human rights through a one-day demonstration of economic solidarity to support the Women's March on Washington/Hear Our Voice "Day without a Woman." The rally was held in the Unitarian Universalist Church due to inclement weather.

March 8 was chosen as a day to recognize the enormous value that women of all backgrounds, cultures, and ages add to our socio-economic system, while receiving lower wages and experiencing greater inequities, sexual harassment and more job insecurity than their male coworkers.



UUCB CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE

WOMEN IN HARMONY SATURDAY, APRIL 8 AT 7:30 PM



Women in Harmony has been singing for social justice for over 20 years and **is dedicated both to musical excellence and social justice.** They sing for unity among women, advocating social, political, and economic equality for all. Their music is culturally and stylistically varied, daring, and full of life. The songs, while diverse in style, all convey the importance of connection and community.

Tickets: \$12 in Advance, \$15 at the door
Available at the church office,
Gulf of Maine Books, or online at
<http://womenharmony.brownpapertickets.com>.

This is the first time Women in Harmony has performed in the Brunswick area. Let's give them a big UU welcome!!

Refreshments still needed for the Women in Harmony concert. Contact Sue Michaud.

LIBANA

On Saturday, March 11th Libana took us on a musical journey of cultural diversity - reflecting the universal human experience uniting us all.



Libana awed a crowd of about 150 with their talent, energy, and global experiences and raised another \$938 for local charities!

Thanks to kitchen helper, Caroline Evans and all those who donated refreshments. And a special thanks to Bruce and Barbara Kantner for providing home hospitality for the entire group.

UUCB CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE



JUD CASWELL

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

SAVE THE DATE

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

Jud is a local favorite and has made a name for himself on the national folk circuit, playing folk festivals from Texas to Oregon and winning some of the best song-writing contests in the country.

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

I'm hoping that when you read this, you would have attended the Pledge Drive Gala! Our Pledge Drive Team has worked really hard to give us a party to celebrate who we are and enjoy a Friday night gathering. They seem to have thought of everything! Great appetizers, music, entertainment, child care and even gelato for us all! And, no one is asked to bring any of the food! It is a perfect time to reflect on all the great aspects of being part of this church. If you weren't able to attend, I hope you appreciate their efforts, and reflect on the positive things being a member of UUCB brings to you.

Here is what being a part of UUCB means to me:

- The services inspire and nurture my spiritual life, an essential part of who I am.
- The relationships I have at UUCB are stronger, with more depth, than most of my other friends.
- The intellectual stimulation I get from services, programs, discussions, and meetings expands my mind and pushes me to read, study and grow more as a person.
- The religious education program we have is essential for the developing minds of our children. Exposing them to the teachings and morality of world religions couldn't be more important.
- The social justice studies, followed by actions, taking place through our church fill me with pride that we are a place where people gather and support each other to do things to help many in this troubled time, addressing injustice wherever we can.
- The caring and support we give to one another in hard times is invaluable.

- The feeling of belonging each time I step foot into this church builds my sense of connection to others and makes me know I'm not isolated.

This is only the beginning of the list of why I give a lot of time to this wonderful congregation. Yet, being on the board for three years has made me very aware of what the costs are to keep our staff, building and programming going strong. Here is why I give money too – as much as I can – and I wish it could be more.

- Our staff needs fair compensation for the terrific job they do. I think we have the best staff going, yet last year we were only able to give them each a 1% cost of living increase in salary! How many of us at the prime of our careers would have been content with a 1% raise? This year we need to do better for them.
- Our religious education programming requires books, materials for crafts, paper, pencils and all kinds of things. The adult programming, although much is done by our great volunteers, still costs in a myriad of ways.
- The building costs are not negotiable as we need heat, cooling, electricity, and upkeep to have a safe environment for all.

I was once asked, "What monthly bills do you pay first?" It gave me a giant **PAUSE**. Why didn't I pay my pledge first to reflect the importance of this church to me? That helped me see my priorities more clearly. I hope as you plan your pledge, you will consider what your own answers are to these questions.

Mary Larson, Chair, Board of Trustees

SNOW BIRDS CHALICE CIRCLE STARTING UP



If you are a returning snow bird, or if you missed signing up for a Chalice Circle last fall but would still like to join one, here's your chance to participate in this wonderful program. This year we are offering a Snow Birds Chalice Circle, so that our summery folks can participate. The group meets the third Tuesday of the month, starting **April 18**. (The group is flexible in nature to accommodate snow birds' varying migration schedules. Snow birds who return to Maine later than April are welcome as long as they let me know they will be joining.)

Chalice Circles is an adult religious education program that allows people to draw closer to one another, to nourish hearts and spirits, and to engage minds in stimulating conversation. Chalice Circles typically meet once a month to explore a curriculum designed specifically for UU seekers.

Chalice Circles help us to embrace our Mission Statement. Each meeting has a *spiritual* component. The groups *welcome all* who are interested; at the end of a year, the groups re-form to open the door for more newcomers to join them. Group members *nurture one another* during the year by creating an environment where deep listening

can occur. And groups provide service to both church and wider community to help us engage in our commitment to *work for justice* and *to care for the earth*.

What is required of you? First, we ask you to commit to attending the meetings. Second, we ask that you be willing to listen deeply to the people in your group and to share from your own experience according to your comfort level.

Interested? To sign up, please let me know of your interest.

Sylvia Stocker

DISCLAIMER

A Disclaimer -Regarding the so-called African tribal story I used as a meditation during our choir service, I did some vetting, unfortunately after the fact, and found that an authentic tribal source for the story cannot be found. It is most likely an invention and has little relation to the truth. For that I apologize.

Brad Mitchell

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

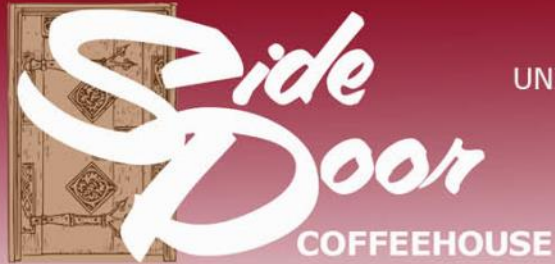
The Habitat for Humanity Spring Walk will be held Sunday, May 7, starting at 2:00pm at St. Charles Church, 132 McKen Street in Brunswick. We will walk to Hope Lane where refreshments will be served before heading back to the church.

Last year our team of walkers raised \$5,572. This year our goal is \$6000. Every penny raised goes toward building, repairing, weatherizing, and rehabilitating homes in the area.



Team UUCB at the Spring 2016 Walk

Want to help! Registration packets for walkers will be available every Sunday through April, except for Easter Sunday, in the Fellowship Hall. Please see Cuffy Chase or Gretchen Kamilewicz who can provide all the details. Information for sponsoring a walker or the UUCB Team will come later. Thank you. —Gretchen



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

Windy Ridge Band



Jim Chard, Mama Beth Revels, Steve Davis & Frank "Woody" Woodard

The Windy Ridge Band has been playing bluegrass music at festivals, coffee houses, restaurants, parades, private parties and even a rodeo since the band was established in 1989. They play a variety of their favorite traditional bluegrass, folk and Americana songs and feature many songs written by Jim Chard. As a band comprised of U.S. Veterans, Windy Ridge has recently participated in the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. They were honored to win first place for categories entered in 2014, 2015 & 2016 which resulted in showcasing their talents in Milwaukee, WI, Durham, NC and Jackson, MI at the NVCAF annual show. Another of the band's highlights include their 2011 CD "Invitation" comprised entirely of Jim's original tunes.

Founding member and award winning songwriter Jim Chard sings lead and plays guitar and mandolin. Mama Beth Revels sings lead & harmony and plays mandolin and guitar. Frank "Woody" Woodard, an original member, sings and keeps a steady beat on the bass. Windy Ridge's newest member, Steve Davis, adds a great sound with his skillful touch on the banjo.

Friday Evening, April 21, 2017

Feature set preceded by the Open Mike

The Side Door Coffeehouse has been a fundraiser for the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick since 1993.

It is entirely volunteer run.

APRIL 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SAN = Sanctuary FEL = Fellowship Hall WBR = Wendall Berry Room MSR = May Sarton Room MBR = Merrymeeting Bay Room RE = All RE Space HIL = Hildebrant Room CAR = Carson Room MAN = Mandela Room CL = Curtis Library			Mar 29 12 Men's Luncheon: TBA 5:30 RE Sabbatical: MSR 6:30 Asylum Seekers Outreach: MBR	30 9:30 Memoir Writing: WBR 7 Indigenous People's Day: MBR 7 Choir: SAN	31 9 Pledge Count: MSR	1  10 AA Rental: MBR 10 Chalice Circle Facilitators: MSR 5 Rental Fundraiser Office Closed
2 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes 11:30 Newcomers Chat: WBR 11:30 Death with Dignity: SAN 12 Pledge Training: MBR	3 Office Closed	4 4 Membership: MSR 5 Staff: WBR 7 Worship: MSR 7 RE Committee: MBR 7 Concert Committee: WBR	5 11 Rental-Meditation: WBR 12:30 Chalice Circle: WBR 3 Writers: MSR 4 Working for Justice: MBR	6 10 Rental: MSR 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 7 Choir: SAN	7 Tedford Shelter Meal 5:30 Women in Harmony Rehearsal: SAN	8 10 AA Rental: MSR 7:30 Women in Harmony Concert: SAN (doors open at 7pm) Office Closed
9 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes 11:30 Intern Committee: WBR 11:30 Green Sanctuary: MSR	10  Office Closed	11 10 Chalice Circle: WBR 4:30 Finance: MSR 6 Rental-Community Forum: SAN 6:30 Stories: WBR 7:30 Pastoral Care: MSR	12 5:30 RE Sabbatical Support: MSR 6 Chalice Circle: WBR	13 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 6 Maundy Thursday Service: SAN 7 Choir: SAN	14 4 End Inequality Leadership: MSR	15 10 AA Rental: MSR 2-4 Midcoast Voices for Democracy: SAN Office Closed
16 10 Easter Service 10:15 Multi-age Activity 12 Plant Powered Potluck: FEL 12 Chalice Circle: WBR 	17  Office Closed	18 2 Savvy Caretakers: WBR 6:30 Board: MSR	19 11 Rental-Meditation: WBR 3 Writers: MSR 6 Chalice Circle: WBR 7 Equal Means Equal Film: SAN	20 11 Wabanaki REACH: MSR 12 Noon Deadline: "This Week" email & Order of Worship 7 Choir: SAN	21 7:00 Side Door Coffeehouse: Windy Ridge Band 5 Parish Messenger Deadline	22 9 UU & You Class: SAN 10 AA Rental: MSR Office Closed
23 10 Church Service 10:15 Multi-Age Activity 3 RENTAL: Recital	24	25 6:30 Stories: WBR	26 12 Men's Luncheon: TBA 5 MAC: MSR	27 9:30 Memoir Writing: WBR 10:30 Bldg & Grounds: MSR 7 Choir: SAN	28 6 Rental-Maine Jung Center: SAN	29 9 Rental-Maine Jung Center: SAN 10 AA Rental: MSR Office Closed
30 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes Office Closed	ANNOUNCEMENT SUBMISSIONS/DEADLINES If you have items to be placed in the "This Week" email, Announcement Insert (The green sheet) or the Order of Worship, please submit it to Shirley, the office administrator, by Thursday at 12:00 pm 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 May Parish Messenger is Friday, April 21st .					