



Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick

December, 2018

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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

Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick STAFF

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 Sukoski, Sexton

December Worship Services

Sunday Services at 10:00

December 2 Asking the Right Questions

Rev. Sylvia Stocker

We will be celebrating our most recent new members at this service. Music by Derek Herzer and the DaPonte String Quartet.

Wednesday, Dec. 5 at 7 PM Blue Christmas Moments of Quiet Contemplation

An hour of restful, contemplative harp music for those who want to step away from the holiday frenzy and have some time to collect themselves. If you are facing the holidays feeling sad, alone, anxious, or afraid, why not stop by for a peaceful evening of solace? Worship Associates will be on hand to greet you. Music by Louise Gephart.



December 9 Annual Mitten Service

Rev. Sylvia Stocker

Please bring NEW mittens, scarves, gloves, and hats to church to adorn our tree. After the service, we will donate them to needy people in our area. The theme of today’s service is “Mystery,” Music by Derek Herzer and the choir conducted by Heidi Neufeld.

December 16 Beauty in Imperfection & Failure

Rev. Al Boyce

Often times imperfections can be cracks filled with gold. Often times what we see as failure can create Beauty. The sermon will focus on the theme. Music by Derek Herzer.

December 23 Solstice Celebration

Rev. Stocker & Nicole Boutilier

Stories, reflections, and great music to celebrate the solstice and lead into Christmas. Music by Ann Hartzler the Intergenerational Orchestra, Ross Miller, conductor.

Monday Dec. 24 at 5 and 7 PM

Two Christmas Eve services

Rev. Sylvia Stocker & Nicole Boutilier

All welcome at either service. The earlier service is shorter and more engaging for very young children. Rev. Stocker and Nicole Boutilier lead both services. Music at 5:00 by Janice Thompson & guest musicians, 7:00 Janice Thompson, UUCB choir & guest musicians.

December 30 topic TBA

Worship Committee

Music is being arranged for this turning-of-the-year service.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This Month from Our DRE

What does it mean to be a people of mystery?

In Religious Education programming this month we will be exploring the idea of mystery through activities that lead us into the practices of connecting to the divine in ourselves and others, seeing what is miraculous in the ordinary, and gratitude and appreciation for the mysteries in life. If there is one thing that life is full of, it is most certainly mystery. Religion has been the efforts of humans to find answers to questions of meaning and purpose when faced with the mystery of life. Our Unitarian Universalist faith promotes a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We search for answers to the big questions, and although our life's journey may lead us to pieces of the truth, insights, and the formulation of principles and values by which to live, we must inevitably become comfortable with, or at least accepting of, the fact that we will never have all the answers. The great mystery that surrounds us also calls us to be mindful of the fact that oth-

ers have taken different journeys and discovered different truths and insights. Mystery calls on us to acknowledge that our individual and institutional (UUA) perspectives are not better or more important than the perspectives of others. Embracing mystery asks us to also embrace humility.



The holiday season can be ironic at times. The darkness of the season and the rituals and symbols of the holidays call us to contemplation, yet in preparation for the holidays we often find ourselves overwhelmed by the chaos. Because of this chaos it can be hard to focus on what matters most. In the midst of the chaos of the season (some fun, some stressful), be purposeful in taking some time for contemplation to immerse yourself in the mystery that is life. In moments of quiet darkness take time to feel clarity, connection, comfort with uncertainty, and an openness to new insights.

“The opposite of knowledge, in other words, isn't always ignorance. It can be wonder. Or mystery. Possibility. And in my life, I've found it's the things I don't know that have lifted me up and pushed me forwards, much more than the things I do know.” – Pico Iyer

To view Iyer's TED talk link to this website: https://www.ted.com/talks/pico_ier_the_beauty_of_what_we_ll_never_know#t-308328

nicole

HOW TO REACH US

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick

PO Box 129, Brunswick ME 04011

(207) 729-8515

UUBruns@gwi.net

Office Hours at 1 Middle Street are
Tues. through Friday from 10-4

Shirley Bernier, Office Administrator

Rev. Sylvia Stocker, Minister — 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. Please call ahead to schedule a meeting. In an emergency, call her anywhere or any time. (Consult the church directory for her home number.) For routine church business, please call
Rev. Stocker at the church.

Nicole Boutilier, Dir of Religious Education is available by appointment: Call her at the church office or email her at uubrunswickdre@gmail.com.

Monday is the Sabbath for church staff.

Important RE Dates in December

- Dec. 2** RE programs for PreK-High School
- Dec. 6** RE Committee meets at 6:00 pm (note the time change for RE committee meetings)
- Dec. 9** RE programs for PreK-High School
- Dec. 16** RE programs for PreK- Grade 6
- Dec. 23** Multigenerational Worship Service
- Dec. 30** No RE programs or childcare

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

I don't remember my first Christmas, but there is a family story about it. I was 11 months old, and, as my mother told the story, I was miserable with a terrible cold and cough. On that Christmas morning, I didn't wake up when my older brothers surged into the living room at full tilt, excited to see what Santa had brought. Nobody in my family wanted to disturb a sick and slumbering baby, so I slept through all the excitement.

When I finally did awaken, all the gifts had been opened save the ones that were for me. My parents sat me down on the living floor and the family placed the packages around me. Dulled by sickness, and puzzled as to what all the fuss was about, I simply sat there gazing at everything. I didn't know where to begin. And I certainly didn't recognize those brightly wrapped items as gifts.

I'm sure my brothers must have stepped into the breach and opened everything for me. But that story has left me wondering about the times in my life when I haven't recognized gifts for what they are. Maybe that happens to most people; maybe it's part of the human condition to fail to notice the blessings that are right in front of us sometimes. Like the hand that steadies us just when we're about to slip on the ice. Or the friend who invites us out for a cup of coffee just at the moment when we're starting to ruminate about all the problems in our lives. Or the trusted family member whom we can count on to tell us the truth, even if it hurts.

I was thinking about unrecognized blessings after our November 18 service, when we had some trouble with the microphones. First one microphone didn't work. It had worked when we tested it before the service, but when I attempted to tell the children's story, nothing, nada. So I moved to another microphone. That one kept cutting in and out. The Worship Associates scrambled to fix things, until finally they brought forward a different microphone altogether.

Were the malfunctioning microphones a curse or a blessing?

As I watched the Worship Associates swing into action in the A/V booth, I stood and waited, inviting the congregation to take a few moments to enter into quiet together. Indeed, the room quieted right down, and a feeling of calm prevailed (although not, perhaps, from the point of

view of the Worship Associates who were trying to fix the problem quickly!).

Several people later commented on my ability to "roll with" the technical difficulties during that

service. Truth told? I actually appreciated those moments of quiet. I loved that we stopped together. For those few moments while we were waiting, we had the opportunity to collect ourselves and simply to enjoy sharing the space together. A gift. A blessing.

What about you? What unexpected blessings have you uncovered in your life? Where are the blessings you can find? And, how can you be a blessing to someone else?

After our first snowfall of the season, someone said to me, "It's good to find the joy in snow. If you don't, you will have less joy in life. And you will still have the snow." So, here's to uncovering the surprising blessings in our lives. As we enter into the holiday season, may we find joy, even where we least expect it.

Love, Sylvia



I recently returned from the Parliament of the World's Religions, held in Toronto in early November. One of the highlights was enjoying Langar, the free vegetarian lunch the Sikh community provided every day for the 4500 attendees. For Sikhs, serving food to visitors is a spiritual practice. They serve vegetarian food so that everyone, regardless of dietary restrictions, can eat as equals. Here I am, about to "dig in" to my dal, rice, and vegetables.

SAYING GOODBYE TO NICOLE

I was sad, sad, sad, but not surprised when Director of Religious Education Nicole Boutilier gave her notice recently. (Her last Sunday with us will be January 20th.) Nicole is in nursing school. This year, lengthy hospital rotations were added to her already packed schedule, making it hard to juggle work and school. I knew the stress she was under, so her notice wasn't altogether unexpected.

But, still!

Nicole and I have worked together for over 10 years now. She joined our staff at the beginning of my second year here. Ever since, I've had to pinch myself every so often to believe our good luck in having such a fine Director of Religious Education. Nicole has worked hard to craft fun, interesting, and instructive curricula for the kids. She has served as a wonderful sounding board for me in planning worship and activities for young families. She's smart, funny, conscientious, and above-all gifted in working with children of all ages. I will miss her enormously.

UUCB will find its way forward. We will relearn the lesson

that change can also mean opportunity. Let's all remember our Religious Education Committee is small, and they will need our help in charting the course for our young ones in the coming months. Meanwhile, please take some time to wish Nicole well and thank her for her sterling service to us. She is a gem, and we are fortunate to have had her leadership and guidance for more than a decade.



TEDFORD HOUSING 2018 CHRISTMAS STORE

Tedford Housing is creating a free store for homeless families to "shop" for Christmas gifts at no cost to them. We are invited to help gather goodies for the store so that our local homeless people can be well served. On shopping day (December 15), everyone will have equal access to the gifts, and have the opportunity to have their choices gift-wrapped if they want.

New, unwrapped items can be donated to Tedford Housing by THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6. Please drop off items at Tedford's administrative office at 14 Middle Street, Brunswick between 9 and 4 Monday through

Thursday. To support Tedford families during the holidays or to set up a donation drop off, contact Jennifer at 207-729-1161 or jennifer@tedfordhousing.org.

To help stock the free store, Tedford is looking for donations of the following items:

- Towels and wash-cloths
- Blankets (twin and queen)
- Sheet Sets
- Pillows
- Pots and Pans
- Dish Sets
- Dish Towels
- Hats and Mittens
- Socks
- Stocking Stuffers



Last year's free store provided Christmas gifts for 46 families (including 56 adults and 99 children) plus 34 individuals in supportive housing and 16 shelter guests.

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

New Developments in Religious Education

At our October meeting the Board decided to include a discussion of religious education on the agenda for November, and we invited Nicole Boutilier to join us. Then we all learned on November 16th that Nicole had decided to resign her position as Director of Religious Education, and that her last day with us would be January 20, 2019 (see page 4). That knowledge certainly had an impact on the nature of our discussion! Diana Embler, RE Committee Chairperson joined us as well.

First on our agenda was the issue of fluctuating attendance in the RE program. Although there has been some recent improvement, the number of children attending has generally been low. Another challenge is the fact that some kids who have been attending for a long time are getting to the point where they attend less, as is typical in RE programs. Whether due to sporadic attendance on the part of long-time participants or the differing needs of brand-new families, Nicole reported that it has become harder to find volunteers. She added that in the past, many parents joined the church partly so that their children could take advantage of the RE program. More recently, a lot of parents are coming because they want to be in church themselves. The RE Committee has also experienced a decline in parent participation.

We need to consider new ways to minister to young families. This has been a focus of the Spiritual Leadership Team (the group who attended the workshop offered by the New England UUA in October), and is part of the Board's more general goal of increasing our capacity to serve. While we have started discussion of long-term changes in our approach to religious education, Nicole's departure means that we also need to develop a short-term plan to continue the RE program for the rest of this year.

In some ways, the fact that change has been thrust upon us is helpful, and we have an added impetus to be creative in developing plans for the future. Short-term options include: 1) follow the model we used when Nicole was on sabbatical for the remainder of this year; 2) hire someone on a very part-time basis to manage the coordination necessary on Sundays; 3) hire an Acting Director of Religious

Education with the understanding that we may be moving away from the DRE model in the future. In thinking about the longer term, our goals of increasing capacity and effectiveness in ministering to people of all ages might be better served by creating a new part-time position. The group agreed that "Director of Life Span Faith Development" may better describe what we would like to see at UUCB.

Nicole has done a good job of setting up the program for the entire year, and regardless of the option chosen, the team established to carry on the work from February through May will have a good framework already established.

Update on 9 Middle Street

At our special meeting on November 11th the congregation approved the Board's recommendation that we deed to the owner of 9 Middle Street a strip of land containing approximately 357 square feet. The recommendation followed discovery that the church actually owns a parcel of land 23.75 wide between our building and the 9 Middle St. driveway, and that two small sections of that parcel have been in use by our neighbors for a long time. This resolution was negotiated in a meeting with the owner on November 10th. In order to finalize the proposed boundary, official deeds must be prepared. Although there was a delay in moving forward due to concerns expressed by some members of the owner's family, they are now in agreement. We expect to see new boundary markers in the ground before the end of November, and the legal paperwork to be completed soon thereafter. Thanks to all who made this possible.

Glenn Williams, Board Chair



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Place Your Order by Dec. 10

It is a UUCB tradition for members and friends to purchase poinsettia plants to grace the sanctuary for our Christmas Eve service. Poinsettias are often given in memory of or to honor special people or life events. These statements are printed in the Order of Service on Christmas Eve. Poinsettias may be taken after the service to grace your home.

All you have to do is complete the order form and send your cash or check (payable to UUCB) to the church office by Monday, December 10. We will order and pick up the plants, and decorate the sanctuary.

Note: Please take your poinsettia with you after the Christmas Eve service, or have a friend take it for you if you won't be there. Due to the difficulty of caring for these plants, all poinsettias left in the church after the Christmas Eve service will be donated to a local health care facility.

Please fill out this order form and send it to the church office by Monday, Dec. 10 with your payment (checks payable to UUCB)

Order:

Donor Name _____

_____ 6" pot @ \$11.00 each

_____ 8-1/2" pot @ \$25.00 each

Please indicate (to be placed in Order of Service) :

In Memory of _____

or

In Honor of _____

Please include your message here:

Please make checks payable to UUCB and send form and money to the church office by 12/10/18

CHARITY WITH SOUL — DECEMBER

Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program is well known to UUCB and has been selected as the December Charity with Soul.

The MCHPP's mission is to provide hungry people with access to healthy food, work to improve the quality of their lives by partnering with others, and serve them in a manner that recognizes their dignity; serving residents of Brunswick, Topsham, Harpswell, Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Lisbon, Lisbon Falls and Durham.

Currently seven programs are managed by staff at MCHPP: the soup kitchen, food pantry, food bank, pantry to pantry, summer food service, backpack program and mobile food pantries. Maine ranks 9th in the country for food insecurity. Our staff and volunteers provided over 350,000 free meals to hungry people in our community.

UUCB members volunteer regularly at MCHPP and have for many, many years. Together we all make a difference. To learn more go to [http:// www.mchpp.org/](http://www.mchpp.org/) and please donate generously through the month of December in the weekly offering.

Karen Parker, Ex.Dir.



Connect with MCHPP on Dec. 2

Karen Parker, Executive Director of the Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program will be available after the church service on Sunday, December 2nd, in the May Sarton Room. She will provide information about the work of MCHPP, to answer questions, and to provide information about volunteering.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE STEERING GROUP

Black Lives Matter

In recognition of the one-year anniversary of our Black Lives Matter banner installation, we updated the lending library, printed a booklet of UUCBers' personal reflections called *Community Shares*, and printed copies of *Reflections by People of Color* from the UUA website. Both of these documents are available at a special table set up near the coat rack for the next couple weeks. Please stop by and view the poster with other information and resources for future action as well. Mid-December the library will return to the hallway across from the kitchen.

We hope many of you had a chance to participate in our congregational conversation reflecting back over the year and renewing our commitment to this important justice work.

Betsy Williams



One Year Later—Still Calling for Action



The Working for Justice table has lots of important information and resources.

Films for Justice—Starting in Jan.

The Working for Justice Steering Group expects to begin the monthly series, Films for Justice, in January. By then, we will have purchased a license, essential for showing films that are protected by copyright.

The Films for Justice series is a collaboration of Working for Justice and other church committees. Each month a different committee's selection will be shown. Several committees have already submitted their selections, but if your committee is not one of them, it's not too late. Simply email your selections to jdanielson90@comcast.net.

Jane Danielson



Our November 18 food collection for the Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program resulted in over 120# of food!
Wow! Thank you everyone!

*MCHPP is our Charity with Soul in December—
see the description on page 7*

WFJ EVENTS & RELATED ACTIVITIES

"Be SMART" Community Forum on Gun Safety

Saturday, December 15th 10 to 11 am at UUCB

Speakers: Sue Repko, "Be SMART" director in Maine; Brunswick Police Chief Richard Rizzo; and a spokesperson for the Maine chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention


"Be SMART" is a non-political education program of Moms Demand Action that promotes safe gun ownership and works to reduce child injury and death, and to prevent suicide in children and teens. The safe storage of guns saves lives.

Do you know if there are guns in your children's friend's homes? Do you know how to ask the question? This and other life-saving tips will be covered and discussed. Open to the public and free of charge.

FMI: midcoastmoms@gmail.com or Lorry Fleming — 607-0590



Candle Light Vigil
To Remember
The Victims of Gun Violence
Friday December 14 at 5 PM



The 6th Anniversary of the shootings at Sandy Hook

Corner of Pleasant and Middle Streets
Outside the Unitarian Universalist
Church of Brunswick, Maine

Hosted by Maine Moms Demand Action

PeaceWorks Annual Human Rights Gathering

ART WITHOUT BORDERS

A Celebration of the Creative Spirit Across the World

With Brunswick Artist Ed McCartan

Please join us to honor the 70th anniversary
of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Monday Evening, December 10 at 6:00 pm
St. Charles Borromeo Church, 132 McKean Street, Brunswick

A finger food potluck. Everyone is invited to bring something festive.

There will be tables set up for sharing works of art you think are especially appropriate to our focus on the Arts as a path to Peace.

"The World Will Be Saved By Beauty" — Dostoevsky

Co-sponsored by PeaceWorks and the Maine United Nations Association

By our silence, by our willingness to compromise principle... by our readiness to allow arms to be purchased at will and fired at whim, by allowing our movie and television screens to teach our children that the hero is one who masters the art of shooting and the technique of killing, by allowing all these developments, we have created an atmosphere in which violence and hatred have become popular pastimes.

—Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

TEEN CENTER 1ST SUNDAY UPDATE

We , the Teen Center Support Group, have committed ourselves to supplying a substantial meal on the third Wednesday of each month* as well as to collecting donations of snack items on the First Sunday of each month through June 2019. Our donation requests each month are dependent on the needs of the Teen Center and may include other items as we move into the winter months.

The Teen Center continues to host 20-25 kids a day! A huge undertaking for the staff there. Recently, there has been a slight decrease in the number of kids due to a problem with the bus schedule.

The First Sunday collections for December 2 will emphasize snacks and drinks for these hungry and thirsty teenagers! The following is a general list of requested snack items.

- Cheezits
- Goldfish
- apple juice
- powdered lemonade
- potato chips
- taco chips
- salsa
- apples
- oranges
- packaged nuts.



For the holidays, the teens have asked for donations of movie ticket and/or movie size boxes of candy! Gift certificates for the Regal Cinema in Brunswick are available in person or online for \$10 each. These can be given to us on December 2 and will be delivered along with the snack items or can be delivered directly to the Teen Center at People Plus on Union St.

A table will be set up in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, December 2 and someone from the TC Support Group will be there to answer any questions.

Thank you!

The Teen Center Support Group

****If you are interested in helping with the cost of the meal itself, please contact either Carol Briggs or Cuffy Chase.***

Help Fill Teen Holiday Gift Bags!

We are looking for movie candy boxes and Regal Cinema movie tickets! Drop your donation in the Teen box in the lobby or at the table at UUCB on Sunday, December 2.



Gift certificates for the Regal Cinema in Brunswick are available in person or online for \$10 each.



Regal Brunswick 10
19 Gurnet Road, Brunswick

MAINE UU STATE ADVOCACY NETWORK

MUUSAN November Meeting Update

MUUSAN met for its monthly meeting on Saturday, November 10, 2018 in Augusta. Of the 25 UU congregations in Maine, 17, or more than two-thirds, have usually been represented at meetings.

The group reviewed election results. Several UU's were elected to serve in state government. UU congregational work helped restore Ranked Choice Voting, except in elections for Governor, State Senator and State Representative which need a constitutional change by the Legislature.

Financial support by UU congregations is essential to MUUSAN's work. MUUSAN urges congregations to continue plate split or special collections, or to make MUUSAN a line item in the annual church budget.

There were two major presentations on work for immigrant justice. Jen McAdoo and Claudette Ndayininhaze of First Parish Portland spoke about focusing on building relationships with Portland's immigrant community by helping with health and nutrition and identifying other resources in Portland.

Our own Cathey Cyrus spoke about the work to help the immigrant community, the New Mainers, in Brunswick,



Bath and Topsham. Seven churches in these towns have combined their efforts to meet needs as they are identified. A particularly difficult issue is helping immigrants with security deposits Cathey spoke of the challenge of responding quickly to a variety of immediate needs.

Issue groups on Climate, Healthcare, Democracy and Racial Justice met briefly to determine their focus for 2019.

The next MUUSAN meeting will be on Saturday, January 12 at 10 AM at the UU Community Church of Augusta.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Getting to Know UU

The Membership Committee reports that there was good turnout for the You and UU workshop on Saturday, November 18 led by Rev. Sylvia Stocker and Leigh Peranteau. As always, it was a wonderful opportunity to get to know some of our newest friends, and to share our ever-evolving connections to this unique faith.

Following the workshop four people signed the membership book: Peg Duston, Stan Eller, Joel Austin and Susan Leonard. We are delighted to welcome these new members who will be recognized on Sunday, December 2nd during the church service.

Folks who are interested in becoming members of UUCB should call Sylvia to inquire about signing the membership book. Another You and UU workshop will be held in the spring when people who are interested in learning more about the history of Unitarian Universalism, as well as our own church history and denominational principles may attend.

When do we Cancel?

IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER...

Please Check Your Local Television Station: We hate to cancel services or activities ever, but sometimes it's the wisest thing to do. When we do, we will alert Channels 6, 8, and 13. Please watch for announcements.



CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE

It was a Fun Success with Honest Millie in November



On November 10th, Honest Millie, a 6-piece swing jazz band entertained a very delighted audience with their instruments and harmonies and song choice. Some dancers were even spotted dancing in the back of the sanctuary. Concerts for a Cause earned about \$500 for the church and this year's charities: The Gathering Place and the Brunswick Teen Center.



SAVE THE DATE

January 12 @ 7:30

Inanna, Sisters in Rhythm

Inanna, Sisters in Rhythm, is an all-women's percussion and vocal ensemble dedicated to cultural diversity, education, and healing through the universal language of music. Blending western vocal harmonies with the polyrhythms of West Africa, the Middle East, and Brazil, they create a multicultural fusion, evoking an ancient sacred sound that feeds the soul and lightens the heart. Together for 28 years, the band has recorded six full-length albums, traveled throughout the world to study with master drummers, and performed extensively at percussion festivals and community events.

Tickets: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, \$8 Students/Children.

Available after church services or in the church office, Gulf of Maine Books. or ONLINE at <https://inanna.brownpapertickets.com>

Two-thirds of all proceeds will be donated to The Gathering Place and the Brunswick Teen Center.

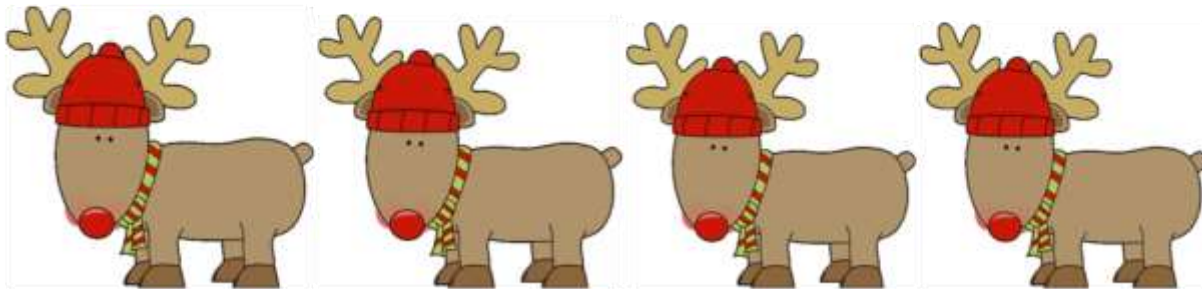
MAJOR FUNDRAISER—DON'T MISS THE FUN!

UUCB Holiday Fair

Bring family and friends and join the fun!

Saturday, December 1, 2018

9:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.



**Contact Joanne Allen jljen543@gmail.com or
Cuffy Chase cmc1322@gmail.com with any questions**



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

OFF THEIR ROCKERS



Off Their Rockers (OTR) is an eclectic rock and roll band that formed in 2016. They have 10 members including six instrumentalists (drummer, keyboardist, fiddler, ukele, guitar, and bass player) as well as lead and back-up singers and their very own sound man. Songs in their rep range from 50's rock and roll to doo-wop to folk to country. The band performs gratis to support non-profit and community organizations. They also enjoy playing for private events and request that donations be made to a non-profit of choice in lieu of payment.

Friday Evening, December 21, 2018

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.

DEADLINES AND OFFICE SCHEDULE

Office Annual Winter Break: Friday, December 21, 2018 — Tuesday, January 1, 2019

The holidays are right around the corner. The UUCB Office is preparing for its Annual Winter Break and requesting your assistance. The office will need to prepare all the Orders of Worship, Green Sheet Announcements, PowerPoint presentations and one final All Church Email before the winter break begins on Friday, December 21, 2018.

Below is a schedule for submitting items. Whenever possible, please submit materials via email at uubruns@gwi.net

CHURCH SERVICE Materials Deadlines	DEADLINE IS NOON
Sunday, December 23 (Order Of Worship, Announcements, and Power Point)	Friday, December 14
Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve (Order of Worship only)	Monday, December 17
Sunday, December 30 (Order Of Worship, Announcements, and Power Point)	Tuesday, December 18

THIS WEEK AT UUCB EMAIL Deadline	DEADLINE IS NOON
Thursday, December 20 (Last One for 2018)	Tuesday, December 18

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS	HOURS
Sunday, December 16	Closed
Monday, December 17	Closed
Tuesday, December 18	10am to 4pm
Wednesday December 19	10am to 4pm
Thursday, December 20	10am to 4pm
Friday, December 21, 2018 to Tuesday, January 1, 2019	Closed
Wednesday, January 2, 2019	10am-4pm

More Deadlines

PARISH MESSENGER Materials:

Friday, December 14 submit to mheath@gwi.net

CANDLES FOR BABIES:

Wednesday December 12,
submit baby names and info to church office

POINSETTIAS for Christmas Services: Order due by
Monday, December 10 (see form on page 7)

TEDFORD CHRISTMAS STORE Donations:
Thursday, December 6 — drop off at Tedford Office at
14 Middle St.

TEEN CENTER Holiday Gift Bags and Food:
Sunday, December 2—in the Fellowship Hall

HOLIDAY FAIR Donations for the Green Elephant Table:
November 27-30

Next Plant Powered Potluck is January 20

The December Plant Powered Potluck has been canceled, but January is coming soon! Our next monthly plant-based (vegan) meal will be held on Sunday, January 20 at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome, and asked to contact the January PPP coordinator, Jessica Tracy 207-729-7294 or jtracy21@myfairpoint.net.

Have a healthy-eating holiday!

UUCB—DECEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Nov. 28 12 Men's Luncheon—Bangkok Garden 1 Chalice Circle 4 and 7 Black Lives Matter Reflection	Nov. 29 9 Gallery Com 10 Chalice Circle Facilitators 5 Maine ALLCare 6:30 New Mainers Support Group 7 Choir	Nov. 30 Holiday Fair Set Up 8am-8pm	1 Holiday Fair 9am-2pm 
2 10 Church Service 10 RE Youth 10:15 RE PreK-6 11:30 Charity with Soul Presentation	3 Office Closed 9 Banner Project	4 10 New Mainers Com 4 Membership 7 Worship Comm 7 Chalice Circle	5 7 Blue Christmas Service — Moments of Quiet Contemplation	6 9 Rental Com 10:30 Building & Grounds 1 Chalice Circle 5 Social Justice 6 RE Com 7 Choir	7 Tedford Shelter Meal	8 9:30 AA 1 Brunswick Indivisible
9 10 Annual Mitten Service 10 RE Youth 10:15 RE PreK-6 11 RE Craft Sale 11:30 Holiday Orchestra Rehearsal	10 Office Closed	11 4:30 Finance Com 6:30 Stories with Soul 7 Pastoral Care Com	12 4 UU Christians 7 Growing Needs Taskforce	13 1 Wabanaki REACH 5 Maine ALLCare 7 Choir	14 5 Vigil to Remember Victims of Gun Violence—outside UUCB	15 9:30 AA 10 "Be Smart Community Forum on Gun Safety"
16 10 Church Service 10 RE Youth 10:15 RE PreK-6 11:30 Holiday Orchestra Rehearsal	17 Office Closed	18 2 Chalice Circle 6:30 Board	19 1 Chalice Circle 6:30 Financial Sustainability Com	20 10 Chalice Circle Facilitators 6:30 New Mainers Com 7 Choir	21 Office Closed 6 Side Door Coffeehouse	22 9:30 AA
23 10 Multi-Generational Church Service Holiday Orchestra performs	24 Office Closed 5 Early Christmas Eve Service 7 Candle Light Christmas Eve Service	25 Office Closed Christmas Day	26 Office Closed 12 Men's Luncheon	27 Office Closed 7 Choir	28 Office Closed	29 9:30 AA
30 10 Church Service (no RE program)	31	2019 Jan. 1 Office Closed	DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY PARISH MESSENGER - Dec. 14 If you want an announcement or article to appear in the monthly Parish Messenger, send it to the newsletter editor, Michael Heath (mheath@gwi.net) on or before Friday, December 14th.			



Holiday Fair

Saturday, December 1st, 9 to 2. Live music, wreaths, white elephants, holiday centerpieces, gifts for kids, hand-knit mittens and hats, baked goods, jewelry, and more. Coffee, cider, and muffins in the morning. Soup, bread, and pie at lunchtime. Bring your friends!



Blue Christmas: Moments of Quiet Contemplation

Wednesday, December 5th, at 7, an hour of restful, contemplative harp music for those who want to step away from the holiday frenzy and have some time to collect themselves. If you are facing the holidays feeling sad, alone, anxious, or afraid, why not stop by for a peaceful evening of solace? Worship Associates will be on hand to greet you.

Poinsettias

Decorate our sanctuary with poinsettias in memory of loved ones, new births, or special events. Dedications appear in the Christmas Eve order of worship. Plants are \$11.00 for a 6-inch plant and \$25.00 for an 8-1/2-inch plant. To order, contact the church office (729-8515 or uubruns@gwi.net). Tell us the number of plants and wording for the dedication. **Orders and payments due December 10.** Checks payable to UUCB. (Note: If you want to keep your plant, please take it with you after the second Christmas Eve service. Plants that are left behind will be donated to a local care facility.)



Mitten Service

Sunday, December 9th at 10. During the service we will adorn our Christmas tree with mittens, hats, gloves, and scarves to distribute to needy families. Please bring contributions (NEW items, please, not used) to church that morning.

RE Holiday Fundraiser Craft Sale

During Sunday school on November 25 and December 2, children will make crafts to sell to raise funds for Tedford Housing and Midcoast Humane.

Sale will be held on December 9 (and the 16th if there are leftover items) after church.

Continued...See other side for more special events

Holiday Intergenerational Orchestra

On Sunday, Dec 23, musicians young and old are invited to play in our annual Intergenerational Orchestra.

Rehearsals on Sundays December 9 and 16 immediately after the service. We recommend, though do not require, that you attend at least one rehearsal. Musicians of all abilities welcomed; you do need to be able to read music. Please bring a music stand. FMI or to join, contact Ross Miller remiller234@gmail.com.



Candles for Babies



On Christmas Eve, we light candles to honor babies born or adopted into church families during the previous year. After the Christmas Eve service, families may take their candle and votive holder home. Parents, grandparents, or great-grandparents, please contact the church office (729-8515 or uubruns@gwi.net) with the child's name, date of birth, name of parent, grandparent or great-grandparent so that we can include that information in the Christmas Eve order of worship. **Deadline to submit a baby name is Wednesday, December 12.**

Two Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24th at 5 p.m., a shorter service for those who require every last minute to get ready for the holiday.

Monday December 24th at 7 p.m., a somewhat longer service for those who want to take a breather.

Both services will feature carols, readings, special music, and candle lighting. All ages welcome.

Note: The earlier service will be more engaging for very young children.

No hospitality after either service, but please stay to greet old friends and make new ones.

