



Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick

December 2019

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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

Toben Cooney-Callnan,
Acting Dir. Of Religious Exploration

Stephanie Bernier,
Music Coordinator

Heidi Neufeld,
Choir Director

Derek Herzer,
Choir Accompanist

Shirley Bernier,
Office Administrator

Tony Sulkoski,
Sexton

Sunday Worship Services at 10:00

Dec. 1 An Immigrant Spirituality—Welcoming the "other"

Rev. Eduardo Pazos

Immigration is one of the most debated topics in our country today. What does our faith and spirituality teach us about the immigrant, the other, and those who are homeless, or in transition? The struggle for immigrant justice is not just a political struggle, it is a spiritual practice that is deeply rooted in our common desire for justice and peace for all people. Music by Derek Herzer.

Dec. 8 Annual Mitten Service, "Awe"

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. Music by the choir conducted by Heidi Neufeld and accompanied by Derek Herzer.

Dec. 15 Lady Sings the Blues

Rev. Sylvia Stocker

Nearly everywhere we go this time of year, we are assaulted with the message that everything is "merry and bright." But what if we are sad or lonely or fearful during the holidays? Deaths of loved ones, hard times, serious illness, and more can feel magnified when everyone else seems to be bustling around with preternatural happiness, per the expectations of the season. Today's service creates a sacred container to allow for an alternative to false good cheer. Music by Derek Herzer and the DaPonte String Quartet.

Dec. 22 Solstice Celebration & Multigenerational Orchestra

Toben Cooney-Callnan and Rev. Stocker

Stories, reflections, and great music to celebrate the solstice and lead into Christmas. Rev. Stocker and Toben Cooney-Callnan leading the service. Music with accompanist Ann Hartzler, and the intergenerational orchestra conducted by Ross Miller.

Dec. 24 Two Christmas Eve Services (5:00 & 7:00)

Rev. Stocker

All welcome at either service (or both!). First service launches with 15 minutes of music at 4:45, with the service beginning at 5. This earlier service is shorter and more engaging for very young children. Second service launches with 15 minutes of holiday music at 6:45, with the service beginning at 7—Music: (5 pm) Eric Peppe; (7 pm) Eric Peppe and the UUCB Choir.

Dec. 29 The Gifts of the Darkness

Rev. Abby D'Ambruoso

Rev. d'Ambruoso is an ordained pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and has served as an interfaith pediatric chaplain since 2017. Music by Kat Logan.

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Interim Minister Process

Keith Kron is the Director of the Transitions Office at the UUA, and Barbara Child is a retired UU minister who served continually in interim ministry for more than a decade. Together, they are editors of a book published by Skinner House entitled *In the Interim: Strategies for Interim Ministers and Congregations*. This is an excellent resource for us as we navigate the interim process, and each member of the Board will receive a copy for study. Keith states the following in his introduction:

Interim ministry is hard, transformative work, and this book is for those who are called to it, and for congregations committed to making the most of the gifts of interim time. It's a time to explore the cultural geography of the church, do some really cool experiments, and get ready to make the next ministry a success, but the congregation will have to listen to some things they don't want to hear along the way. My co-editor Barbara and I hope this book will remind you of what you already know: If you wish for the world to change and be better, you have to start with yourself.

We will be devoting an hour of our December Board meeting to transition planning. Christine Purcell, our Regional Transitions Program Manager at the UUA, will be joining us via Skype to provide guidance and answer our questions as we begin the process in earnest.

Reading the Parish Messenger?

Thank you for reading the Parish Messenger. Many people put a lot of effort into producing it, and we are curious about how many members and friends actually read it. It has been suggested that we consider publishing it on a quarterly basis rather than every month. What do you think? Let any Board member know.

— Glenn Williams

General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Congregations

The 2020 UUA General Assembly will be held here in New England from June 24th to 28th at the Rhode Island Convention Center. Early registration at a reduced rate is available through March 15th.

The theme of this year's gathering is *Rooted, Inspired, & Ready*. About being rooted:

To know where we are headed, we must be in touch with our theological and historical roots. A major focus of General Assembly (GA) will be partnership with Indigenous leaders in the Northeast to explore how to



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

co-exist in right relationship with one another and the land we occupy. We will deepen our understanding of Unitarian Universalism's role in European settlement, 400 years

since our direct religious ancestors on the Mayflower landed in Plymouth and began the colonization of what is now New England. GA will delve into our theological and historical roots, bringing those threads into the present day and acting in solidarity with Indigenous communities.

We would love to have delegates from UUCB attend, and at our November meeting the Board voted to provide limited financial support for two members. Let me know if you would like to be a delegate.

Policy Update

The Board has approved a new policy which supersedes the Principal Assets Account Management Policy dating from March of 2008. The new policy is entitled *Principal Financial Assets: Contribution, Management and Distribution*. Whenever we approve a new policy, a 30-day congregational review period is announced, and the policy is posted in church. The new policy is available for review on the bulletin board across from the coffee area. Members are invited to share input with the Board.

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Okay, I've admitted to you many times, and now I confess again: I love holiday lights.

Not all holiday lights. I do have a quirky set of standards, and I drive my family crazy when I express my decided judgments as we travel around town. (I love the brightly colored fir tree on the mall. I don't like the outline of the gazebo all lit up ... and on and on and on!)

My all-time favorite decorations are trees with colored lights festooning their branches. In recent years, Steve and I strung lights in a little fir tree in the small stretch of woods beside our house. That little fir was dwarfed by giant pines on all sides. They were subtle, those lights, but effective – little bits of colors in the middle of the woods, peeking out behind the taller trees.

But this year we have to change things up a bit. When tall pines snapped off in those woods during high October winds, they crushed that little tree. Last year's lights, now all smashed up, were still draped on its branches. Gazing down at the wreckage, I felt so sad as I took in a new reality: no more would I experience the joy I once felt looking out our bedroom window to that little tree shining bravely through the night.

The holidays can be acutely difficult in times of loss. With all their festivities and celebrations, I believe the holidays work best when we can make room for all the complicated feelings of the season. For those of us facing recent – or, perhaps, recurrent – losses, holiday music and bright lights can feel harsh and torturous. For those of us who feel alone even on the best of days, holidays that promote family closeness and conviviality can feel both exclusionary and shallow.

But, think about it: the season's stories encompass a range of human experience and emotion. Thus the stories we tell this time of year may offer some comfort to those who need it. Christmas is the story of the birth of hope in a time of bondage and oppression. The Hanukkah story, too, emerges from a context of oppression – the miracle of light in a time of deep darkness. Kwanzaa was developed to bring hope, joy, and a sense of pride to African Americans living in a culture whose overarching message to them is hateful and dismissive. New Year's gives us an opportunity to turn the page, to welcome in something new and hopeful.

As the season of merriment descends upon us, let us remember that the sad times, the lonely times, the oppressive times human beings suffer are part of the ongoing story of humanity. If you are currently



enjoying good times, you may already know it won't always be that way for you. So this might be a season to share some of your good fortune with someone who needs extra tenderness just to get through the false gaiety that surrounds us this time of year. And if you are currently suffering difficulties, you might find your burden lightened a bit if you can find a way to reach out to someone else who needs some support.

For me, the spirit of the season isn't wrapped up with bright papers and bows. Instead, it is held in the human heart of love. To become real, that spirit needs to find some outward expression. In their book *Unplug the Christmas Machine*, Jo Robinson and Jean Coppock Staeheli include the following pledge, which I find to be a helpful orientation to the season:

“Believing in the true spirit of Christmas, I commit myself to:

- Remember those people who truly need my gifts
- Express my love in more direct ways than gifts
- Examine my holiday activities in the light of my deepest values
- Be a peacemaker within my circle of family and friends
- Rededicate myself to spiritual growth.”

With those words in mind, here's wishing you holidays that speak to you in the right amounts of excitement and calm, outward attention to the world around you and inward attention to your own hearts and souls, and love both given and received in large doses.

*Love,
Sylvia*

GETTING READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

TIME TO ORDER Poinsettias for Christmas Eve SERVICE

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.

We will order and pick up the plants and decorate the sanctuary. You can take your poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve service to grace your home.

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.

What to Do

- complete the order form
- Write the message you want to appear in the Christmas Eve Order of Service.
- Return form (along with payment) to church by Thursday, December 5 at 5pm

NOTE: The Church Office will be closed from Mon. Dec. 23 through Wed. Jan. 1, 2020. Please check the full schedule of closings and deadlines on page 13.

Your Name _____

(as you want it to appear in the Order Or Service)

MESSAGE for the Order Of Service::

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

ORDER:	TOTAL DUE
___ 6" pot (4-6 blooms) @ \$12.79 each	_____
___ 8 1/2" pot (14-16 blooms) @ \$28.79 each	_____
Grand Total	_____

Payment can be cash or check (payable to UUCB)
due by Thursday, December 5 at 5pm
Mailing Address
UUCB
PO Box 129, Brunswick ME 04011

Sylvia's sabbatical dates in December

Sylvia will be on sabbatical from December 25 to January 6. If you need pastoral assistance while she is away, please contact Board Chair Glenn Williams or Vice Chair David Kew. They can help connect you with one of the ministers covering for Sylvia.

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. For routine church business, please call Rev. Stocker at the church.

CONGREGATIONAL HEART BEAT

Joys, Sorrows and Concerns

The following joys, sorrows, and concerns were recorded in our congregational notebook, which is available to write in every Sunday before the church service.

Joys:

The Asylum Seekers Group of UUCB celebrates that members and friends have donated \$2665 in cash and gift cards in support of the asylum seekers in Brunswick. In-kind contributions like warm clothing and socks have also been donated. Thank you all for welcoming and supporting new members of our community.

Sue Loeb reports that Sylvia's sermon, "Flanders Fields," coincided, by chance, with her husband Steve's birthday. His name is Stephen Flanders Loeb, and his ancestry dates back to the Flanders Fields in the early 1600s, so happy birthday, Steve!

Finley Alsobrook reports he made the honor roll this semester. Congratulations, Finley!

Carol Toroomian's departure for permanent relocation to Naples, Florida, is imminent as we go to press. She says she has yearned to do this for many winters. She will be driving to Florida with her dear friend Elaine, and she asks us to wish them a safe journey. Her mantra is, "If not now, when?" We will miss you, Carol, and wish you all the best in your new home.

We thank all whose help has supported two teens from the Teen Center in continuing their journey in an art class.

Happy 9th birthday to Sam. His family celebrates the many joys he has brought them.

The Brunswick Community Services Center Clothing Bank thanks everyone who has generously donated winter coats. The Clothing Bank has been able to adequately serve their customers and has a few coats left for those who may be coming in over the next month.

ED. NOTE: Rev. Sylvia Stocker compiles this list of joys, sorrows, and concerns monthly for the Parish Messenger, mostly from items written in the book on Sundays. If you would like your news reported (and you haven't left a message in the book), please contact Sylvia.

Sorrows and Concerns:

We were saddened to hear of the death of Bill McElman, founding light of our UUCB pagan group, on October 20. Bill sang in our choir and was always greeted us with a friendly smile and a good chat. The family held a service at Daigle Funeral Home in Bath on October 25. Memorial contributions can be made to Maine Public Safety Pipe and Drum Corp. P.O. Box 8821, Portland, ME 04104.

We hope for the best for Angel, Phyllis Hartzler's daughter-in-law, who recently had a lumpectomy for cancer. Phyllis asks that we hold Angel in our thoughts.

Mary Larson is recovering from major surgery for diverticulitis and a hiatal hernia. She has loved getting cards from folks. Now that she is home, she would like visitors if they schedule by calling ahead. Mary reports, "I am home doing better each day and am most grateful for all the cards, flowers, support and love from this church family. Thank you so much. I am filled with gratitude."

Sienna Dode reports her flip phone is no more. She is hoping there might some kind techie who would help her activate her "smart" phone.

Stephanie and Rene Bernier thank the congregation for their unwavering love and support during this difficult time of learning to live life in a new way.

Lynn Ellis is remembering her father at the second anniversary of his death.

Lynn and Dan Ellis are asking for positive thoughts for their son, Dave, as he continues to have complications with his heart .



— Sylvia Stocker

HOW MIGHT YOU GIVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON?

Tedford Housing 2019 Christmas Store

Last year many people from UUCB enjoyed teaming up with Tedford Housing and the Pathways Vineyard Church to provide a free Christmas Store to families who are currently homeless. Last year, with your support, 40 families that included 51 adults and 79 children were able to shop in Tedford Housing's Christmas Store.

At the Tedford Housing's Christmas Store, families can "shop" at no cost to them. Kids can shop for parents in a special area. There are fun crafts, Christmas movies, coffee, hot cocoa, and other treats while families wait their turn to shop.

Everyone receives equal access to gifts and can have their gifts wrapped or receive supplies to wrap gifts themselves.



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

Pots & Pans ♥ Dish Sets ♥ Gift Cards
Blankets (twin & queen) ♥ Sheet Sets
Pillows ♥ Dish Towels ♥ Hats & Mittens
Socks ♥ Stocking Stuffers (for teens & adults)
Toys ♥ Towels & Washcloths

Donate new, unwrapped items to Tedford Housing by Thursday, December 5th.

Drop off items at Tedford's administrative office (14 Middle Street, Brunswick) between 9am and 4pm, Monday – Thursday. Or, to set up a donation drop off, contact 207-729-1161 #101 or Jennifer@tedfordhousing.org.

Minister's Discretionary Fund

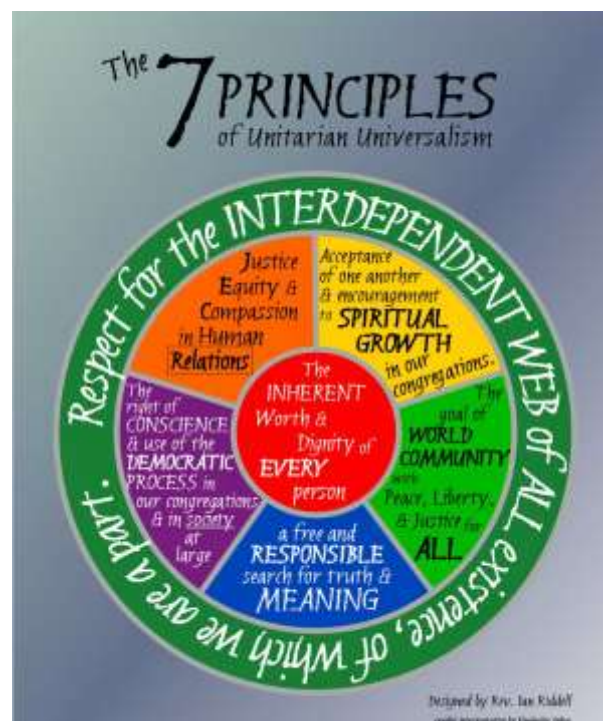
December is a good month to remind people about our Minister's Discretionary Fund. We use it to help needy people with Hannaford cards, gas cards, electric bills, heat, and the like. Each year, the church budgets \$800 for that fund. That's a good start, but in these trou-



bled times, it doesn't go far. The rest of the money comes from you. Would you consider making an individual donation to the Minister's Discretionary Fund? With so many in our region facing terrible financial hardship, your donation will surely be put to good use, especially as the winter cold sets in.

To donate, make a check out to Minister's Discretionary Fund, and send it to the church office: UUCB, Box 129, Brunswick ME 04011.

*Thank you,
Sylvia*



HOW MIGHT YOU GIVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON?

UUCB Plays Santa

As we have in the past, we are offering the congregation an opportunity to help needy families during the holidays. This year, UUCB is supporting two local families with young children.

One family consists of a couple and their 12-year-old son and 4-year-old grandson, whom they have been raising since the death of their daughter. I have worked with this family off and on over the years, and I have come to know them to be hard-working, honest, and humble people who have been beset with a number of serious health issues at times. At the moment, the mother, a nurse's aide, is unable to work because of a knee injury that will require surgery soon. Once she has healed from that, she will be able to return to work. In the meantime, with only the father's salary to carry them along, they have fallen behind in bills. As the father puts it, "I'm robbing Peter to pay Paul," and their situation is pretty dire. The children need warm clothing more than anything, and help towards bills would be most appreciated, too.

The second family consists of two parents and their three children aged 8 months, 3 years, and 8 years. The family was a single income family, with the mom taking care of the kids at home while the dad worked. The dad is currently recovering from open heart surgery. During his hospitalization and its aftermath, the family lost their



apartment. They are currently approved for BRAP housing and are searching for a place to live. Meanwhile, they have been bouncing from pillar to post, staying with people who have been able to open their homes to them. This family, too, needs supplies for their children and help with food.

To help these two families, we are collecting gift cards to both Walmart and Hannaford so that the families can use the donations in the best way for them. (I know: Everyone wants to buy teddy bears and games for little kids, but, honestly, gift cards will serve the families better.) If you would prefer to donate cash or a check made out to UUCB with "UUCB Santa" in the memo line, we will divvy up the funds collected and distribute them to the two families. Sharon Brown will be collecting donations on Sundays between now and December 15. Or, you can leave them with me at the church office. Thank you!

— Sylvia Stocker

Tedford Shelter Meals

UUCB delivers supper for the Tedford Shelter on the first Friday of each month. We split the work up by having two people make main course meals for 10 people, one person makes salad or vegetable for 20 people, and one person make dessert for 20 people.

The main course meals are usually some form of casserole or one-pot dish. Examples: pot roast with potatoes & carrots, vegetarian chili with cornbread, mac and cheese with additions, chicken with red beans & rice, eggplant Parmesan, chicken pot pie, mixed burritos. Crock pot stews also work well. Salad / vegetable are pretty free-form. Desserts are also free form, ranging from cookies to pie to pudding to baked apples.

Delivery times are on Friday 7 - 8am or 3:30 - 4:30pm, or, if the meal can keep over and be reheated, 5:30 PM - 8 PM Thursday night. If you deliver Thursday night, be sure to tell the staff the meal is for the next day. They do have refrigerator space if needed. If there is a last-minute delivery problem, you can call Shelter staff at 207-729-4871, ext 104. (Try and let them know before 4:30 PM)

The shelter is on the corner of Cushing and Cumberland Streets in Brunswick.

Feel free to call me on my cell phone at 207-751-3950. Thank you all for offering to help UUCB provide meals for the Tedford Shelter.

-- Hank Simpson



Saturday, December 7th, 9 to 2. Holiday Fair

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!



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 \$12.79 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 Thurs. December 5.** 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.)

Sunday, December 8th at 10:00 Mitten Service

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.



Sunday, December 15 RE Holiday Fundraiser Craft Sale

During Sunday school on Dec, 1 & 8 children will make crafts to sell to raise funds for Tedford Housing and Mid-coast Humane. **Sale will be held on December 15 after church.**



Sunday, December 22 Holiday Intergenerational Orchestra

Musicians young and old are invited to play in our annual Intergenerational Orchestra. **Rehearsals on Sundays December 8 and 15** immediately after the church service. If players can attend both rehearsals, that is best, but please try to attend at least one. 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 11.**



Wednesday, December 25 Two Christmas Eve Services

At 5 p.m. (Arrive early to hear special music beginning at 4:45.) A shorter service for those who require every last minute to get ready for the holiday.

At 7 p.m. (Arrive early to hear special music beginning at 6:45.) 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.

ILAP is Our Dec. Charity with Soul

The Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project helps low-income immigrants improve their legal status and works for more just and humane laws and policies affecting immigrants. As

Maine's only state-wide immigration legal services organization, we help our neighbors find safety from violence and persecution, reunite or remain with family members, advance towards economic security, and build new lives amid rapidly changing and increasingly hostile immigration laws and rules.

ILAP's staff, team of pro bono lawyers, and volunteers provide robust legal support, education, and advocacy so our clients so can work, go to school, stay healthy, and continue calling Maine home for generations to come. Last year, our team represented and advised nearly 3,000 Mainers!

Thank you for including ILAP as a Charity with Soul at UUCB.. As we welcome those who are seeking protection from violence and persecution, we are reminded of our strength when we unite. Together, we can promote justice and create a more equitable state.

Visit the ILAP website ilapmaine.org/ for information.



IMMIGRANT LEGAL ADVOCACY PROJECT

Immigrant Justice

UUCB Asylum Seekers Group (ASG) continues to try to keep the congregation informed of requests for contributions and volunteer help in support of the Brunswick asylum seekers living at the Brunswick Landing. UUCB members and friends have been active in overseeing laundromat trips, providing transportation, food and other gift cards, warm hats and socks, translation and tutoring support.

After the holidays, the ASG steering group will offer an information session to update interested people in the congregation on the current status of the larger efforts to help settle these new Mainers. An important question for the town of Brunswick and all concerned is how long-term financial support can be found for ongoing phone services, transportation to Boston Immigrant court appointments, and legal assistance. ASG continues to seek effective ways to offer meaningful support to the wider settlement effort and welcomes new people to their meetings.

Mid Coast New Mainers Group (MCNMG) continues to work with TEAN and the Brunswick and Bath communities to support both the newly settled and the longer-term asylum seeker families.

On **Saturday, Dec. 14, at 10am at Bath City Hall**, Bath Police Department, Fire Department and City dispatchers will present a "Keeping Your Family Safe" conversation with the seven asylum seekers living in Bath. They hope to offer both welcome and support to these new Mainers while also discussing car seat installation, smoke alarms, 911 calls, bicycle safety and other questions about staying safe in Maine (particularly in the winter!).

All of us need to stay alert about proposed new draconian rules that seek to make it increasingly difficult for asylum seekers to achieve their asylee status and begin to lead productive lives in Maine. Go to the ILAP (Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project) website ilapmaine.org/ for more information about how your voice is needed.

Teen Center Update

Attendance continues to grow at the TC. In September 412 teens and in October 408 teens visited the Center. This is the largest number of teens visiting the Center so far this year.



Donations resulting from the back to school letter sent out to the community have so far reached \$11,460 towards the 2019-2020 goal of \$13,000. The teen Christmas party will be on December 19th. At the Christmas party, the teens will receive gifts of movie tickets and boxes of candy. Currently, contributions for movie tickets cover 34 of the 140 needed. UUCB has currently collected \$261.00. We will have a table in the Fellowship Hall for the next three Sundays seeking donations.

Donations of hats, mittens/gloves would also be greatly appreciated.

WFJ EVENTS & UPDATES

Indigenous Awareness

Midcoast Indigenous Awareness Group (MIAG) now has an active website www.miag-group.org that is posting information, including an extensive calendar of events, related to Indigenous issues and activities in midcoast Maine.



MIDCOAST
INDIGENOUS AWARENESS
GROUP

SAVE THE DATE: Maine Wabanaki REACH will present a workshop at UUCB as the second of the WFJ Maine Community Foundation Grant series Many Voices: Widening the Listening Circle: Exploring Wabanaki Maine History (an interactive and very powerful workshop) which will be offered on **Saturday, Feb. 1, from 10-12:30 in the UUCB Sanctuary.** (snow date 2/8) The workshop is free but registrations will be required since there is a limit to the number of participants. More information will be available soon.

HOLIDAY FAIR



Come to the Holiday Fair

Sat. Dec. 7th 9-2:00

We hope that you will participate! Volunteers are still welcome!

We still need:

- pies and breads for the kitchen
- baked goods for Eats and Treats
- sellers for craft UUCB craft table
- crafts to sell
- pricers and sellers for the Green Elephant Table
- donations of books, kitchen items, hand tools and trinkets

Come and have some fun! We are selling fresh handmade green wreaths and a great variety of beautiful handcrafted items. We'll serve coffee, muffins and scones in the morning. Come for a lunch of soup, bread and pie. Bring your family and friends. Questions: Joanne Allen jlaen543@gmail.com or Cuffy Chase cmc1322@gmail.com



MUUSAN Update

Faith Woodman and Lynn Ellis attended the recent November 9th meeting of MUUSAN (Maine Unitarian Universalist Social Advocacy Network) where a large group of UUs from around the state gathered to discuss current issues. Guest speaker Rev. Dr. Jodi Cohen Hayashida spoke about the Maine Poor People's Campaign and the lead up to the national event on June 20, 2020 in Washington, D.C. There are hubs around Maine that are leading on this event including Waterville, Bangor, Lewiston/Auburn, Portland and Dover-Foxcroft.

Another active issue MUUSAN is pursuing is the Get Out The Vote 2020 Campaign as outlined on the UUA website --uua.org/elections2020.



MUUSAN is also looking to close their budget deficit with ongoing donations from individuals and UU congregations. The Working for Justice group at UUCB donates \$150 annually and additional donations are always welcome.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE EVENTS & UPDATES

Films for Justice Series

The second Film for Justice in our series will be screened on **Sunday, December 8, at 11:30 AM**. Bring a bag lunch and invite friends. Enjoy free popcorn.

Vessel " is a documentary about a fearless sea captain sailing a ship through loopholes in international law to provide abortions on the high seas. She leaves in her wake a network of emboldened activists who trust women to handle abortion on their own terms.

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3311588/>



Sunday, December 8, 2019

11:30 am

(following coffee hour)

UUCB Sanctuary

This film supports our continuing reflections on white privilege.

Candle Light Vigil & Remembrance

On the 7th Anniversary of the shootings at Sandy Hook
Saturday December 14 at 5 PM



Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick
Corner of Pleasant and Middle Streets

Organized by Working for Justice of UUCB and Moms Demand Action



Unitarian Universalist Church
of Brunswick, Maine



PEACEWORKS INVITES YOU TO OUR

ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY GATHERING
On Wednesday, December 11th, 2019
From 5:30-7:30
At the Brunswick Unitarian Universalist Church
Middle and Pleasant Streets

**We will share a compelling short TED Talk on Human Rights
In order to stir our discussion
facilitated by Mary Beth Sullivan**

**Full Circle will teach
one or two songs to inspire**
**Join us for a finger food potluck
(only finger food please)**

*The speaker is Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty (England's National Council for Civil Liberties). Since 2003 she has written, spoken and broadcast widely on the importance of the post-WW2 human rights framework as an essential component of democratic society. She was born in London and studied Law at the London School of Economics. She is Chancellor of Essex University and a Master of the Bench of Middle Temple.

www.peaceworksbrunswickma.org

CONCERTS FOR A CAUSE

Tricky Britches

Saturday, January 11, 2020 @ 7:30



From their roots of playing heel-stomping old-time fiddle tunes on the streets of Portland, Tricky Britches has progressed into a fusion of original material, classic bluegrass, country, and folk rock. The band consists of Tyler Lienhardt on fiddle, Seth Doyle on mandolin, Jed Bresette on bass, and Ryan "Bear" Wilkinson on banjo.

The story of the band begins in the spring of 2009 when three longtime friends from Gorham decided to take the songs from their back-porch jam sessions and Portland street corner busking to the next step. They produced a CD of old-time tunes and started playing for weddings, parties, and contradances.

As time went by, the band added a banjo player, started writing their own songs and produced 2 more CD's featuring their original material. Their influences include John Hartford, Hank Williams, Bill Monroe, The Stanley Brothers, The Grateful Dead, The Everly Brothers, and American traditional folk music.

Before the boys knew it, Tricky Britches was playing concerts and music festivals all over Maine, the US, Hawaii and Europe, but their favorite show is still on a crowded street corner at midnight.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door, and \$5 for Students/Children.

See Sue Michaud or David Roundy after church services or buy your tickets at the church office, Gulf of Maine Books, or online at britches.brownpapertickets.com/.



**Concert tickets make GREAT Stocking stuffers!
and you'd be supporting the church,
Tedford Housing &
Oasis Free Clinics.**

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Church Directories

There are still a number of church directories waiting to be picked up at the Visitor's Table. Please be sure that your directory has your name on the back cover.

We hope that you have been able to access the online/mobile directory, it sure is handy! mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/152914/unitarian-universalist-church. Remember to report any changes or corrections to Shirley in the church office.

ATTENTION MUSICIANS!

Classical Piano Sheet Music - Free

Are you a classical pianist and would like to add to your collection of sheet music? Do you know any places that could benefit from Larry Lemmel's collection? I know he would love for them to be put to use. Includes Brahms, Bach, Bartok, Barber, Scarlatti, Hindemith, List, Chopin, Debussy, Roy Harris, Shubert, Schumann, Schostakowitsch, Ravel, and more!

Please contact Jessica Tracy if you would like to take a look: call or text 729-7294, email jftracy30@gmail.com.

— Jessica Tracy

SIDE DOOR COFFEEHOUSE



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

Hilton Park is made up of a father, son and neighbor from a small town in Southern Maine. Their music is a pure blend of folk and finesse, as evidenced by the way they meld their creativity so seamlessly.

Though heavily informed by godfathers of acoustic music like Simon and Garfunkel and Crosby, Stills and Nash, Hilton Park is a modern, forward-thinking band whose tones and textures are sublime, brimming with both originality and ambiguity, making any of the usual comparisons seem superfluous.

No conventional rhythm section (drums nor bass... it's madness surely?!) is to be heard in the majority of Hilton Parks' music. This brave move

helps

to distill their sound, as the exquisite three-part vocal harmonies are able to come to the fore and the **trio's** formidable instrumental talents are laid bare, with no crash and jangle to hide behind. Their careful choice of sparse instrumentation creates a soundscape so full that they have been referred to as a **"three-piece quintet"**.



Friday Evening, December 20

Feature set preceded by the Open Mike

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

Church Office Winter Break

The holidays are here and 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 (Dec. 23, 2019, through Jan. 1, 2020).

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

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS	HOURS
Monday, December 16	Closed
Tuesday, December 17	10am to 4pm
Wednesday December 18	10am to 4pm
Thursday, December 19	10am to 4pm
Friday, December 20	10am-3pm
Mon., Dec. 23 to Tues., Jan. 1, 2020	Closed

ORDER OF WORSHIP, POWERPOINT, & GREEN SHEET ANNOUNCEMENTS are all DUE BY NOON

Service	Materials Deadline
Sunday December 22.....	Tuesday, December 17
Sunday, December 29.....	Tuesday, December 17
Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve Service – No Green Sheet Announcements).....	Tuesday, December 17
Sunday, January 5, 2020	Tuesday, December 17

THIS WEEK AT UUCB EMAIL information DUE BY NOON	
Email Date	Deadline
Friday December 13	Thursday, December 12
Friday, December 20 (last One for 2019)
.....	Thursday, December 19

UUCB — DECEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes 11:30 Visitors & Newcomers Chat 11:30 Wreath Making 1 RE OWL group	2 Office Closed	3 9:30 Mah Jongg 4 Membership Com 4 UUCB Asylum Seekers Group 7 Worship Com	4 2 Holiday Fair Musicians Rehearsal	5 Poinsettia Flower order deadline Holiday Fair Setup 7 Choir	6 Tedford Shelter Meal Holiday Fair Setup	7 9:00 –2:00 Holiday Fair
8 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes—Xmas Crafting 11:15 UUSC-ACG Update 11:30 WFJ Film 11:30 Holiday Orch. Rehearsal 1 RE OWL group	9 Office Closed	10 9:30 Mah Jongg 4 Finance Com 6:30 Stories with Soul 7 Pastoral Care 7 RE Com	11 4 UU Christians Group 5:30 Human Rights Day Gathering Candles for Babies notice deadline	12 7 Choir	13	14 9:30 AA 5 Sandy Hook Vigil
15 10 Church Service 10:15 RE Classes & Craft Fair 11:30 Holiday Orch. Rehearsal 12 OWL	16 Office Closed	17 9:30 Mah Jongg 6:30 Board of Trustees	18 12 Chalice Circle 2 Chalice Circle	19 9 Gallery Com 1 Wabanaki REACH 5 MIAG Steering Group 5:15 Maine All-Care 7 Choir	20 Side Door Coffeehouse 7 Open Mike 8:30 Featured Performer: Hilton Park 11:59 Parish Messenger Deadline	21 9:30 AA
22 10 Multi Generational Church Service with Holiday Orchestra	23 Office Closed	24 Office Closed 9:30 UUCB Mah Jongg 5 Christmas Eve Service 7 Christmas Eve Service	25 Office Closed Christmas Day Rev. Stocker's Sabbatical begins, through Jan. 6	26 Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28 9:30 AA
29 10 Church Service No RE Classes	30 Office Closed	31 9:30 UUCB Mah Jongg	JAN. 1 Office Closed New Year's Day 2020	2 9:30 UUCB Memoir Writers 6:30 Veterans for Peace 7 Choir	3 Tedford Shelter Meal	4 9:30 AA



DEADLINE FOR THE January PARISH MESSENGER - Fri. Dec. 20

If you want an announcement or article to appear in the monthly Parish Messenger send it to mheath04011@gwi.mail.com on or before Friday, Dec. 20. The Jan. issue will be distributed on Dec. 31.