

NEWSLETTER

Welcome! Our worship service begins at 10AM

Jan 1st - "Dangerous Opportunity" - Led by Joan Smith A reflection on entering a study of racism, juxtaposed with profound political change and shifting spiritual moorings. What might our guidance system look like while we are in flux? How will we know what to let slip from our hands, having served it's purpose and ready to be let go?

Jan 8th- "" - Led by Dick Snyder

Jan 15th- "A Song Heard Round the World" - Led by Matt Meyer. IWhen daily life can leave us feeling isolated or struggling to find connection, the music we love can be an antidote. Our music tells the story of how we are bound up together -the story of our connectedness. Join us for a service of song and silence, of deeper connection and musical communion. Matt is a musician and community organizer who has led hundreds of services for UU congregations across the country. He has a degree in music and has studied abroad in Cuba, Ghana and Central America. Matt is a founding resident of the Lucy Stone Cooperative in Roxbury and serves as Director of Community Life for Sanctuary Boston.

Jan 22nd "" - Led by Jodi Hayashida Jodi graduated from Meadville/ Lombard Theological School in 2000 with a Doctor of Ministry degree, having previously earned a BA in history from the University of New Hampshire. Jodi believes in the centrality of communal worship and has been awarded the Paul Carnes Preaching Prize and Charles Billings Preaching Prize. She was called into settled ministry in Auburn in the summer of 2000. While Jodi does love singing, gardening, and working on her karate and jujitsu skills, she spends most of her non-ministry time with her two wonderful daughters and husband.

Jan 29th "Generosity as Spiritual Practice" - We will come together to celebrate our church and kick off our annual Stewardship Campaign. Members of the congregation will share stories about what makes church so important to them. We will also look into why generosity as a spiritual practice is an important part of collectively working toward justice in an unjust world.



UUR Contacts

Minister	
Rev. Mark Glovin	594-8750
President	
Reba Richardson	273-3044
Director of Religious Exploration	
Carney Doucette	975-9994
Music Director	
Sojourner Hodges	230-9167
Worship	
Lois Anne	542-7348
Building and Grounds	
Joe Patten	542-7762
Treasurer	
Dick Tomeo	596-7989
Wall Coordinator	
Peter Lehman	542-1496
Area Interfaith Outreach	
BOT liaison	
Pinny Beebe-Center	
Tonian Circle - Co-presidents:	
Charmarie Blaisdell	372-6118
Susan St. John	594-9084
Office Administrator	
Sarah Rogers	594-8750

We are a Welcoming Congregation

FIRST UNIVERSALIST STAFF

Sarah Rogers, Office Administrator
mail@uurockland.org
207.594.8750

Carney Doucette, DRE
dre@uurockland.org

Sojourner Hodges, Music Director
shodges86@gmail.com



LAY PASTORAL CARE TEAM

Amy Libby, Team Lead
uulibbyfamily@gmail.com ~ 207.542.8908

Rebecca Hansard

Paul Meinersmann

Isabelle Troadec

Pinny Beebe-Center

Mary Patten

Lucie Bauer



CARING NETWORK COORDINATORS

Jennifer Temple
jennifer@team-temple.com ~ 207.542.0505

Karen Vellekamp
kvellekamp@gmail.com ~ 207.890.9026



SABBATICAL COMMITTEE

The role of the Sabbatical Committee is to coordinate and support expanded lay responsibilities and to ensure good communication with the congregation during Mark's sabbatical.

Reba Richardson, President, UUR Board of Trustees
info@hatchetcovefarm.com ~ 207.712.7382

Roger Moody
rogeramoody@gmail.com ~ 207.236.9058

Lucie Bauer
midcoastlucie@me.com ~ 207.975.7043

Amy Libby
uulibbyfamily@gmail.com ~ 207.542.8908

Pinny Beebe-Center
pinny14@gmail.com ~ 207.596.3937

Lois Anne, Worship Committee Chair
loisanne1001@aol.com ~ 207.542.7348

Rev. Mark Glovin

THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH IN ROCKLAND

345 BROADWAY
ROCKLAND, ME 04841

207-594-8750
MAIL@UUROCKLAND.ORG

THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH IN ROCKLAND

A GUIDE TO REV. MARK GLOVIN'S SABBATICAL

January-May 2017



207-594-8750
MAIL@UUROCKLAND.ORG

WHY A SABBATICAL?

A sabbatical leave is traditional for Unitarian Universalist clergy. It offers an extended time for rest, renewal, reflection, and study. Mark's covenant with UUR provides for a six-month sabbatical every six years of service. It has been five years since his last sabbatical, and Mark has chosen a five-month sabbatical this year instead of taking a longer time away next year. The congregation will benefit from his sabbatical in at least two ways: Mark will return refreshed from this time away, and our members will have had an opportunity to engage even more deeply in shared ministry.

WHAT WILL MARK BE DOING DURING HIS SABBATICAL?

Mark will take time to reconnect with his adventurous spirit and those experiences that brought him to UU ministry. He'll take a really deep breath, re-engage spiritual practices, travel, and attend to multi-generational family responsibilities. Mark will also take opportunities to broaden and deepen his skills in ministry focusing on modern preaching style and liturgical sensibility.

CAN I CONTACT MARK DURING HIS TIME AWAY?

The essence of a sabbatical leave lies in the minister's ability to be completely free from his church responsibilities. All routine matters and most emergencies can and will be handled by our committees, staff members, and dedicated volunteers.

WHEN WILL MARK RETURN?

Mark's sabbatical will begin on December 26th, 2016 and will end on May 30th, 2017. He has timed his return to be with us for the traditional June end-of-year ceremonies (including the Bridging and Flower Ceremonies). In July Mark will be on his regularly scheduled vacation, and then he will return in August to welcome back the congregation for the coming year.

WHO WILL DO THE WORK MARK USUALLY DOES?

Sermons. UU ministers throughout Maine help fill the pulpit of their fellow clergy on sabbatical. Mark has spent many Sundays preaching at congregations that have ministers on sabbatical. Now, UU ministers from around the region have committed to preaching during Mark's time away. In addition, Kate Braestrup and other excellent speakers from within and outside our congregation will ensure that Sunday services continue to be exciting and thought-provoking. Worship Associates from the *UUR Worship Committee* will ensure that Sunday services run smoothly.

Pastoral Care. All requests for support can be directed to our office administrator, Sarah Rogers, at mail@uurockland.org or 207-594-8750. Sarah will forward all requests to the appropriate support team, listed below:

- A *Pastoral Care Team* will be available to support congregation members through the type of times when they would usually call upon Mark. This team is made up of members of our congregation who are skilled in their respective mental and social health fields. You can find a list of team members on the back of

this brochure.

- The *Caring Network* will continue to coordinate short-term assistance and support (rides, meals, visits, etc.).
- *Hospitality ("Coffee Hour") Teams* will become small units of support and care within our congregation. Forging deeper connections with our fellow Hospitality Team members will ensure that everyone in our congregation stays connected.

Rites of Passage. Our Community Minister, Kate Braestrup, will be on-call for major events that require a minister. In addition, Mark will be contacted by the Pastoral Care team in the event of a serious life event within our congregation.

Church Operations. We are blessed with a strong and skilled staff; church operations will continue as usual, under the oversight of the Board of Trustees. A member of the Board will be available for questions before and after service on Sundays (look for the person wearing the 'Board Greeter' nametag). The annual Stewardship Canvass, the Social Justice Initiative and other congregational projects will continue forward with strong lay leadership during Mark's sabbatical.

BUT WILL MELISSA STILL BE HERE?!

The answer to this vital question from small children and their parents is YES! We are blessed that Mark's partner, Melissa Holt, will continue in the Spirit Play room on Sundays during Mark's sabbatical.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



OUR NEW
MEMBER
CEREMONY
DECEMBER
2016

BOARD PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Happy New Year! The arrival of 2017 leaves me with mixed feelings. This coming year is going to provide so many challenges: it will likely challenge our sense of ourselves as Americans, challenge our communities as pressure builds from ever more sides, and will put more challenges in front of those among us who are already marginalized. In the midst of my worry, though, I feel so lucky on a personal level with my cellar full of food, a wood shed full of heat-to-be, a supportive family, and a church community that cares, as I do, about impacting our world in positive ways. The work that we suspect is coming, in fact is already here. We will need to learn walk that delicate line between looking outward (what can we do out there?) and looking inward (what can we do in here, in our hearts?) to make our lives and our work most meaningful this coming year.

I was moved that our Board of Trustees took a look at the votes the congregation made on our Social Justice Initiative, and made a hard decision. Race, and racism, is a tender subject to look at too closely. But the Board made the call that race is the question that many people in the congregation feel ready, if nervous, to dive into, and so decided that down this path we go. Or, I should say that we continue on, for we are already in deep, whether we are aware of it or not. Over the coming weeks the Board will start to clarify the question at hand, and start to reach out to folks within our congregation who are willing to take leadership in our learning process. If you would like to be involved in any way, please let me know.

We will miss Mark these coming months, but I know that our congregation will continue to thrive in his absence. Every one of us, though, will need to make an extra effort to stay connected, to contact folks we haven't seen at church in a few weeks, to let the Caring Network know if we think someone could use a little extra TLC. We have a lot to do in Mark's absence and I know we will do it with enthusiasm and love. Please check out the pamphlet about the sabbatical on the table in the foyer and contact me if you have any questions.

Two small business items: First, the UUR biennial auction has a new date: March 11th! Put it on your calendar, sign up to donate a service or item and food, and be there or be square! Second, check out the job description for the very part-time church sexton position. It's a role that we've acknowledged is needed for years now, and with Mark's absence it's time to make it happen in a trial format. Contact me or the office asap if you are interested!

Thank you, everyone, for the part you play in this beloved community.

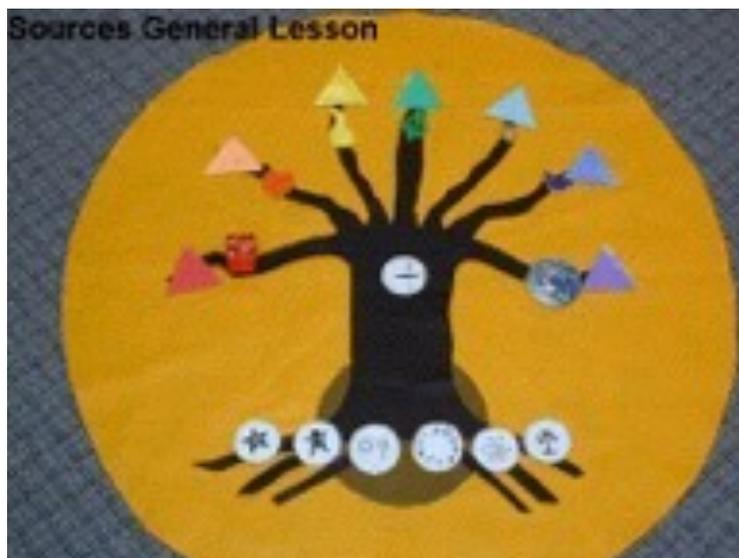
Reba

HAPPENINGS IN RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION...

Spirit Play Story Teller Training & Basket making

There will be a training class on how to lead a Spirit Play story and circle with children during RE on Sunday mornings on Monday, January 16 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at church. After the training, we will have lunch together, and then those who would like to make new Spirit Play baskets can either stay and work on one or take one home to make.

We need Spirit Play Story Tellers throughout the year. This is a delightful way to connect with our children, share a gift you have, and learn more about our UU Faith. If you can come to the training, please let Carney know at dre@uurockland.org.



Loaves & Fishes RE Taco Bar on January 29

RE families are welcome to help at the Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen when our church helps on the fifth Sunday. On January 29, we do a taco bar. RE families can sign up to donate food items for the taco bar and/or help with serving. Tacos are a welcome treat at the soup kitchen. Look for the sign-up sheet in the lobby.

Coffee Hour Table Top Discussions

Are you looking for a way to make coffee hour more meaningful? Come to the Robbins Room (our library) with your drink and plate of goodies, and enjoy conversation on a question that will be on the table. This is a great way to get to know other people on a deeper level. What brings you joy? If you could be a character in a book, who would it be & why? Tell about a miracle in your life. If you don't like the question, ask a different one. The Robbins Room is a quieter space for conversation. And while your there, check out a book to enjoy!

OWL grades 8 & 9 – January meetings are Sunday, January 8 and Sunday January 22, 12 noon at the OUT Maine office.

Dear Friends:

Greetings from Florida, from the crew of Sailing vessel "Sionna"!

Keith Davie & Nicki Dunbar departed Rockland Harbor on August 18th, and have been gradually working our way south aboard our 32-foot sailboat

"Sionna" ever since, weathering three tropical storms and two detached

retinas along the way, and covering over 1800 nautical miles on our

adventure to warmer climes. We are now anchored in Vero Beach FL for the holidays, with plans to continue our travels south, and hopes to spend the next four months in the Florida Keys. We'll be leaving the boat in Florida for the summer, and will be rejoining the Maine scene for a bit before returning to the boat next fall to continue our touring, wandering ways. If you're curious, please have a look at our travel blog,

www.sionnablog.wordpress.com. Blessings to all the UUR community: We miss you! Stay warm! With love, Keith & Nicki

Fundraising Planning Meeting

Sunday January 15th, following the service.

During this meeting we will review the fundraising events from the past year, and plan the events for the rest of the fiscal year. Come with ideas and feedback. We will definitely need folks to organize specific events, but ideas, inspiration, or even past knowledge are extremely helpful too! We look forward to seeing many of you there. For more information, or to share questions, concerns, or ideas, please contact Becky Meinersmann at LTMeinersmann@gmail.com, 226-0966, or by basecamp.

Sharing Wall for Joys and Sorrows

We're trying a new way to share our joys, sorrows, hopes, etc. In the back corner of the sanctuary is a table with markers, pens and for now post-its. Each of us is invited to write down what we wish to share, date it and sign it or post it anonymously on the wall above the table. Frames are being made, rows of wires with clips will be installed inside the frames, and we'll switch to writing our deep joys, sorrows, concerns, etc on cards that can be hung from the clips. The post-its or cards will remain up for about a month or so unless you take yours down sooner. Since we don't all come to church every Sunday, and some of us are not comfortable getting up to speak about deeply felt emotions, and some of us have trouble hearing or remembering, this could be an effective way for us to share with each other. How about if we try it for a couple of months, see how it works, and then give feedback to members of the Worship Committee? Thank you, Lois Anne, Worship Committee Chair

DONATIONS NEEDED: The two blue tubs under the greeter's table in the lobby are waiting for groceries for AIO shelves. Current Needs: Chunky soups, Canned fruit, Canned vegetables, Oatmeal or boxed cereals, Baked beans, Pasta (except spaghetti), Pasta sauce, Macaroni & cheese, Canned chicken, Tuna, Rice, Peanut butter, We also need: shampoo, bath soap, deodorant, shaving supplies, infant, diapers, toilet paper, dish soap, laundry detergent. If you can pick up tampons or pads for women and girls, leave them in the One Less Worry tote- also toilet paper is needed.

Home Hospitality Request

Sunday February 19, 2017, The Rev Emily Burr from New Hampshire will be leading our worship service. She and her husband will drive over on Saturday the 18th and are hoping for home hospitality for the night. If you have a guest room that you can offer them, please email mail@uurockland.org

Canvass planning begins this month!

"Reminder to "Team Canvass" (if you have spoken with Emily Peckham (Gannon) about helping with Canvass, this means you!), we will meet on Jan 26th at 5:15pm. We will have pizza and a movie for the kids while we meet"

Changing your life, changing the world.

Pledge Giving Statements and Year-End Statements – Around Jan 15th, each member that has made a contribution this year will receive a year-end giving statement for taxes, showing any giving from Jan 1, 2016 – Dec 31, 2016. I will also send out a quarterly statement that will show how much you have fulfilled of your pledge up to Dec 31, 2016, as this is halfway through our fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

**Jan 2017
Hospitality
TEAMS**

Jan 1 - Churchmice

Jan 8 - Tigers

Jan 15 - Chickadees

Jan 22 - Loons

Jan 29 - Herons

**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

For the **February issue** is:
Mon. Feb 20th Submissions
may be sent to
mail@uurockland.org

Position Available - UUR Trial Sexton

Intent: To provide temporary facilities support (primarily regarding building maintenance and rental) to UUR staff for six months, encompassing the duration of Mark's 2017 sabbatical (January-May 2017). At six months, the efficacy, structure and financial feasibility of the position will be evaluated by the UUR Board of Trustees/Executive Committee.

Hours: ~3-4 per week (not to exceed 16 hours per month, unless previously arranged with Personnel Committee) at \$15/hr. No benefits to be accrued for these hours.

Responsibilities: The sexton will have a bi-weekly (Mon/Fri) check-in with the office administrator and will respond to facilities needs (i.e. fixing or arranging with someone who can fix issues). The sexton will be a public face for the church, setting up for and orientating groups that are renting the space. For example, showing how to lock/unlock the building, how to use the kitchen/coffee maker/dishwasher, how to close up after themselves, etc. This can be done either at the time of the rental or at a prearranged date that works for both parties. The sexton will need to have a flexible work/life schedule and likely will need to live nearby.

Schedule: Check-in with the office administrator during her office hours on Monday and Friday. The remaining weekly hours are flexible and to be initiated by the sexton depending on repairs, projects, and building use needs.

Supervision: During the duration of Mark's sabbatical, this position will report to the Personnel Committee (headed by the Board President), with weekly and practical guidance provided by the office administrator. This position will shift to reporting to Mark upon his return in June 2017.

Reminder: At this point in time, this is a 6-month, temporary position.

Please direct questions about this position to Reba Richardson, President, UUR Board of Trustees (207-712-7382 or info@hatchetcovefarm.com). If you are interested in applying, please let Reba or the office know (mail@uurockland.com) by January 2nd, 2017.



TONIANS

TONIANS IN THE NEW YEAR: SHLOMIT AUCIELLO ON "FINDING CONSENSUS IN A FRACTURED WORLD", WED., JAN. 11th, at CHURCH -- NOONTIME, ALL WELCOME

The first meeting of the Tonian Circle, our church's women's group, will be on the second Wed. of the month, Jan. 11th, at church at noon. We look forward to welcoming our friend and neighbor, Shlomit Auciello, who is about to complete her degree in Human Ecology at the College of the Atlantic, and who has agreed to discuss the vexed problem of finding a way to move forward in this intensely fractured and fractious world we live in. Shlomit was a print journalist in Knox and Lincoln County for many years, and is a veteran of a number of hard-fought political campaigns. Everyone is welcome to attend this program; we gather at noon to visit and eat our bag lunches, do some club business and welcome our speaker. If you wish to attend the program only, we suggest coming around 12:45pm. Hot beverages will be available, and sometimes (often, actually) dessert. If you have questions, call Secretary Cathy Baker (596-6865, snowbake@midcoast.com) or President Susan St. John (594-9084, susan@midcoast.com).

Now, a rundown on the Christmas Lunch Out, a Tonian outing on Dec. 14th, which hit new heights in total attendance (29), number of new members (of the church and of Tonians), and general festivity. Our Dec. meeting was waaaaay festive. Not just because there were so many of us, including dear Frans Gerritsen, but because we have so many new Tonians, some of whom are also new members of the church (and you are not required to be a church member to be a Tonian, but occasional attendance is a help). By my reckoning, we have 7 new members this fall: Diann Henderson, Fay Larkin, Kathryn Avery, Eleanor Lacombe, and the 3 C's: Cassie Snyder, Cindy Laurila and Candace Vancko. One of the results is that we have new ideas for programs, and another is that our exchequer has grown yet fatter. After we had given our veteran waitress Rosie our orders, we applauded our Hostess with the Mostest, Stevie Kumble, did a little business, and discussed what we might do with our wealth. Cathy Baker beat the drums for assistance to AIO and One Less Worry, Annie Kiermaier added the Knox County Health Clinic, Lucie Bauer suggested OUT Maine, of which she is Board President, Lorrie Kniesner and Negar Paydar Smith supported assisting an Iraq vet living with PTSD, and Charme Blaisdell and Stevie Kumble asked if we should perhaps until after the holidays, and make our donations then. Louise Cadwgan asked us to consider appropriating money for Oceanside East High School food-insecure kids over vacation, and this was agreed to -- this was really the only item on our long list which required immediate action.

That, and recruiting hostesses for our January 11th meeting, at which we hope to welcome area journalist and writer Shlomit Auciello to talk about the vexed question of "finding consensus in a fractured world". Volunteers are Negar Paydar Smith, Audrey Moody and Jean Morrison, and all hands will be welcome on deck, as usual. For our Feb. 8th meeting, we can look forward to hearing from Gin Mackey about her latest book, which she will have sent to the publisher by then, about the process of doing background research for a crime mystery, and getting published.

TONIANS CONTINUED & LOAVES & FISHES

Reminders of holiday duties were offered, specifically, to come and help shop and wrap with the children at the Holiday Shoppe. This important event took place Friday, Dec. 16th, a day early to avoid a snow/ slush / freezing night, but we were bang on for extreme cold, record-setting for December. Fortunately, the frigid wind had dropped by 5pm, when we elves arrived, and soon, all kinds of children and families. Tonian workers (Carney at the helm) included Jean Morrison, Arlene Faulkner, Audrey Moody, Margaret Boyajian, Judy Powers, Susan St. John and me, and boy, were we busy. A special treat was welcoming an extended family of Tibetan immigrants, just settled nearby, and of course, new to Christmas (most Tibetans are Buddhist). Wildly fun and successful -- thanks to all who donated gift possibilities and helped wrap and label them. [And tell me if I left someone out, please.]

We also made a last-minute appeal for gift shoppers for the young moms and babies of the Passages program, part of the Wayfinders School in Camden which assists young parents with completing their education and adding life skills. Many Tonians took up the challenge, and a small mountain of wrapped packages was waiting at the church on Sunday for delivery this week. Participating in projects like this is a great antidote to the wretched excess of Christmas hype, and our unrealistic expectations of ourselves. We cannot do it all, but we surely can help out some, as the season of want advances for so many. Thank you all for your good energies and good wishes. Bright Solstice, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah -- from Cathy B.

PS Shout-out to Aimee Moffitt-Mercer, who sent in her dues and a lovely photo of "a golden digger wasp, smiling for the camera and helping pollinate all your gardens and keep 'pests' at bay."

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th, 2017: "LOAVES & FISHES" @ St. Peter's Episcopal -- OUR CHURCH'S TURN to COOK and SERVE @ WEEKEND HOT MEAL PROGRAM YOUR HELP IS WELCOME!

On the fifth Sunday of January, we'll be making one of our five trips this coming year to St. Peter's Episcopal Church's kitchen, armed with groceries and prepared food, to cook and serve a midday meal. We leave our church after 11:30pm, to serve at 1pm, and we're usually cleaned up and squared away by 2:30 at the latest. We will be looking for your help in all sorts of ways:

We need cooks and shoppers, to provide casseroles, veg and/or salads, fruit, milk and juice or cider, usually hard-boiled eggs and sandwich bread to make our famous egg-salad sandwiches, and cookies or squares for dessert. We collect cash to give our cooks for ingredients, because we don't want to dent our volunteers' monthly food budgets. We need people, all ages and levels of kitchen experience, to set up, cook, serve and clean up. We prepare enough food to give people a good meal and food to take home for the week, because since fifth Sundays are our gig, most of our diners will be at the scrag end of their food resources (and then, the rent is due).

Around the second Sunday, there'll be a poster up in the lobby at church, with places to sign up to volunteer, and a list of food categories looking for cooks or shoppers. If you haven't done this before, and would like to know what's involved, call crew chiefs Cathy Baker (596-6865, snowbake@midcoast.com) or Susan St. John (594-9084, susan@midcoast.com). Our regular volunteers, and diners, can tell you that we have a really good time and do good work. We'd be glad to have you on board.

Loaves & Fishes RE Taco Bar on January 29

RE families are welcome to help at the Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen when our church helps on the fifth Sunday. On January 29, we do a taco bar. RE families can sign up to donate food items for the taco bar and/or help with serving. Tacos are a welcome treat at the soup kitchen.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the lobby.