

NEWSLETTER

Welcome! Our worship service begins at 10AM

May 7th - “Palimpsest” - Led by Rev. Sylvia Stocker

We say we like to turn over a new leaf, but what happens to the old stuff we think we've left behind?

May 14th - “All the Mothers” - Led by Rev. Israel Buffardi

Mother's day is a time for many to celebrate the ideal of unconditional love. Mother's day can also be a complicated day, filled with mixed emotions for so many. Together we acknowledge all kinds of mothers. Together we explore the nurturer in all of us. *Israel Buffardi is currently serving as the intern minister at Allen Avenue UU Church in Portland. He is a candidate for UU ministry, and an incoming M.Div candidate at Harvard Divinity School.*

May 21st - Rev. Deane Perkins

May 28th - Rev. Sara Hayman



UUR Contacts

Minister	
Rev. Mark Glovin	594-8750
President	
Reba Richardson	712-7382
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
Caring Network	594-8750
Jennifer Temple	
Karen Vellekamp	

We are a Welcoming Congregation

BOARD PRESIDENT'S NOTE

As I type this 'letter from the president' I must say I'm not looking particularly presidential. With mud on my hands and dirt on my face, I'm grateful that my time as UUR president happens to wind down just as our farming season gains in intensity. Not only will our lay leadership be shifting in a couple months, but we'll be welcoming Mark back from his sabbatical at the end of May. I think that collectively our congregation did pretty darn great in his absence, thanks in no small part to the work of the worship committee, the staff, the pastoral care committee and caring network, the board of trustees, and of course the grounded and consistent nature of our members. It was a real gift not only that this community continued strong and functional during Mark's sabbatical, but that Mark's connection and dedication to us kept him at hand to help us through the hard losses we faced this winter and spring. Mark says that he got what he needed out of his sabbatical months -- and I think we did, too. Not only did some of us learn how to confidently run the audiovisual system in the sanctuary (I know, it's a minor miracle), but we learned that we could start new endeavors and delve into challenging situations even without his immediate leadership. That said, I'm really looking forward to hearing his sermons again, having his daily leadership in our community, and seeing his warm smile on Sunday mornings. We've done fine in his absence, no doubt, but it will be great to have him back.

Now, with an appreciative tip of my hat to Roger Moody, I'd like to give a little more detailed accounting of what the Board of Trustees has been up to recently. For those of you who wonder what we do every month (and between meetings), the following is a brief snapshot of our pretty typical last Board meeting. We started off by hearing from Rev. Dick Snyder about what it might mean to join other midcoast congregations as a Sanctuary Congregation; we heard from, discussed, and came up with action items based on reports from the UUR staff; we had a brief presentation from our Canvass chair, Emily Peckham; we discussed and voted on the 2017-18 budget (after already working on it in previous meetings); we received an update from the Social Justice Initiative; we discussed a range of current church concerns regarding "ears to the ground" issues, and more. We are lucky to have a stellar Board Secretary in Caitlin Clark, and the notes from each meeting are always available from the office for those who are interested in more details.

I love how the UUR structures the leadership of our Board of Trustees: one "learning" year as President Elect, one year as acting Board President, and one final year as "elder statesman" Past President. We're lucky to have Paul Desaulniers readying himself to step into the acting President's role on July 1. His deep roots in the Rockland community and his straightforward and clear 'let's get it done!' spirit is going to be great to have at the helm of our Board.

Finally: put it in your calendar to attend the Congregational Meeting after services on Sunday, May 21st. We have some exciting proposals as part of the 2017-18 budget, and I'm looking forward to presenting it all to the congregation. A more detailed agenda and budget specifics will be mailed out next week. Please feel free to contact me with any questions in the weeks leading up to the Congregational Meeting.

Thank you for all that each of you bring to our community. Whether you're at church every Sunday or can only read about our activities from across the country, you're all a part of this beloved community. We're glad you're here.

Reba Richardson

HAPPENINGS IN RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION...

Two Learning Opportunities...

Join Carney on Saturday, May 13, 10-11:30 a.m. to participate in the Webinar: Making Religious Education Accessible To All Children and Youth: Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorders. Please let Carney know if you would like to participate.

Join Carney on Saturday, May 20 – Story Worship Workshop from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at UU Ellsworth - Participants will learn how to engage emotional understanding to enhance meaning through stories that teach and inspire. Please talk to Carney as soon as possible if you would like to go.



The Social Justice Initiative on Race and Racism is meeting on May 9th at 5pm, here at church. We are getting close to having a final draft of the question for study that we will present to the congregation. We would love to have more input from a diversity of viewpoints. All are strongly encouraged to attend and share your opinions. Thanks so much.

HAPPENINGS IN RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION...

10th Annual All Church Retreat – June 3 & 4 at Blueberry Cove 4-H Camp

This year's theme will be "R&R - Refresh and Recharge." Our annual retreat takes place at Blueberry Cove in Tenants Harbor. Come play all day on Saturday, stay overnight if you wish, and then join us for worship outside on Sunday as we welcome Mark Glovin back from his sabbatical.

Do you have a workshop or activity to share? Something that relates to our theme? Yoga, dance, a hike in the woods, singing uplifting songs, doodling. Please contact Carney Doucette, Director of Religious Exploration, if you can help. This is a multi-generational event where we have fun being in community together in a relaxed, beautiful space, rain or shine!

The brochure is attached to this newsletter and there are copies on the Welcome Table in the lobby. Please register and sign up in the lobby for food items that you are bringing. This year, we have included the option of bringing your tent (\$12/person for the night) versus staying in the cabin at \$22/person.

Children's Bake Sale on Sunday, May 14 - Mother's Day

Thank you for your support at the Easter Bake Sale with the children raising \$100 for future programming, fun and social justice work. The "Children's Board," came from our children who want to have more voice in our church. We want to have an end-of-the-year trip to Portland, perhaps visit a Hindu Temple, go rock-climbing and maybe eat at a restaurant. Children are encouraged to bring baked goods to church on May 14th to sell.

Youth Giving Voice with OUT Maine partnership

OUT Maine has received a grant through the Maine Youth Action Network to work with youth. Part I of the grant was the creation of a Youth Policy Board (our own youth, Lieve Temple serves on this board). They are gaining skills in: communications, research, culture and bias. They choose an issue that they think should be addressed in the community, research it and then make recommendations on what to do. They are interested in youth mental health.

Part II of the grant is about youth taking action, and we have been invited to be the first group to participate. Youth entering 7th grade and up are invited to work over the summer to create your own social justice opportunity. There are five 3-hour sessions that will be co-facilitated by OUT Maine and lead you through the process, so that by September you will have a plan ready to implement. If you are interested in this opportunity, please let Carney know. We need at least 4 youth, and we can figure out dates to meet once the group has formed.

The Social Justice Initiative on Race and Racism is meeting on May 9th at 5pm, here at church. We are getting close to having a final draft of the question for study that we will present to the congregation. We would love to have more input from a diversity of viewpoints. All are strongly encouraged to attend and share your opinions. Thanks so much.

2017 Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 21

This church-wide meeting takes place in the Sanctuary after Sunday services (~11:20am)

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Current members will be asked to vote on the 2017-18 budget and on Board and Committee nominations.

Items on the agenda:

- ~ 2017-2018 budget - report from Canvass, discussion of budget and vote
 - ~ Board of Trustees, Nominating Committee, and REC nominations
 - ~ Social Justice Initiative working group brief presentation

Look for a separate email next week detailing the budget, nominations and the agenda. This is UU democracy at work -- we hope to see you all there!



To the First Universalist Community,

My family and I are so thankful for this amazing church family, for the outpouring of love and respect for Milt and for the comfort and support you showed us at the memorial service, reception and beyond. The arms that you wrapped around us were so precious and special. We never will forget the peace it brought to us at a time of such sudden, deep anguish. Since the memorial service the cards and notes that have flowed our way with special messages are so appreciated. For Sharon, Stuart, Stephanie and Shawn and myself, thank you so much for being you, this wondrous church community.

**With love and gratitude,
Phyllis Parsons**

We Deliver Food To AIO Each Week

Please keep filling our AIO tubs (under the front desk).

Foods that are especially appreciated are chunky soups, baked beans, white pasta, anything that is a meal in a can. Brand names are valued.

Thanks for your contributions!

Reminders for Sundays....

The Sanctuary is used during the week.

Please take a moment before you leave to put away your hymnals.

Your Orders of Service can be recycled by placing them on the table outside the Sanctuary.

PARKING

Anyone who is able should be parking across the street in the lot.

No parking on Court St.

LIBRARY ADDITIONS

Four New DVDs:

The Rosa Parks Story; Race to Freedom: The Underground Railroad; Selma, Lord, Selma; Ruby Bridges.

Six books on atheism were donated by Lorrie Kniesner:

God is not Great by Christopher Hitchens

Lost Scriptures: Books that Did Not Make It into the New Testament by Bart D. Ehrman

Forged: Writing in the name of God--Why the Bible's Authors Are Not Who We Think They Are by Bart D. Ehrman

The God Delusion by Richard Dawkins

Godless: How an Evangelical Preacher Became One of America's Leading Atheists by Dan Barker

DEConverted: A Journey from Religion to Reason by Seth Andrews

Four more books on religion were donated by Carney Doucette:

The Third Reconstruction: How a Moral Movement is Overcoming the Politics of Division and Fear by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II (general theology)

Serving With Grace: Lay Leadership as a Spiritual Practice by Erik Walker Wikstrom (spirituality)

Darkening the Doorways: Black Trailblazers and Missed Opportunities in Unitarian Universalism by Mark D. Morrison-Reed (UU)

The Selma Awakening: How the Civil Rights Movement Tested and Changed Unitarian Universalism by Mark D Morrison-Reed (UU)



THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR HELPING WITH SPRING CLEANUP!

Spring is here!

The annual plant sale will be held Saturday, May 13th 8-11am.

What better way to show Mother's Day appreciation?

You will find garden starters or a variety to add new shape, color, texture or dimension to an existing plot.

Please spread the word and consider helping with this fundraiser event. There is a signup in the Lobby!

Any questions?

Ask Ann McClellan, Noreen Mullaney or Rebecca Hansard.



OUR YOUTH GETTING READY FOR SPRING!



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE UUR...



CLOTHING SALE

Time to clean out your closets and prepare for the upcoming June 10th Used Clothing Sale Fundraiser!

Please note new drop-off times: donations of clothing and accessories are accepted at the church on Sundays, Mondays 10-12, and the following Saturdays from noon-two - 4/27, 5/13 & 5/27. Please do not drop off items on other days. Please contact Candace Vancko at 466-9113 to make special arrangements for pick up or if you have an extra large donation. Donations of clothing for men, women & children accepted, as well as accessories such as purses, hats, shoes, scarves & jewelry. ****We are also seeking donations of clothes hangers.**** *Stay tuned for more information and calls for volunteer help during the second week of May. The sale is set to take place on Saturday, June 10 from 8 AM- 2 PM and there will be a pre-sale for volunteers on Friday evening.*

Art Club in Collin's Room

Wednesdays, 9:30 to 11:30 am.

**All welcome, bring your supplies and draw/paint/
sketch/etc with us.**

No dues, no pressure, no judgements - occ laughs, recipes,
suggestions - always
support and encouragement.

We'll have you in stitches! in Collin's Room

Wednesdays at 10am

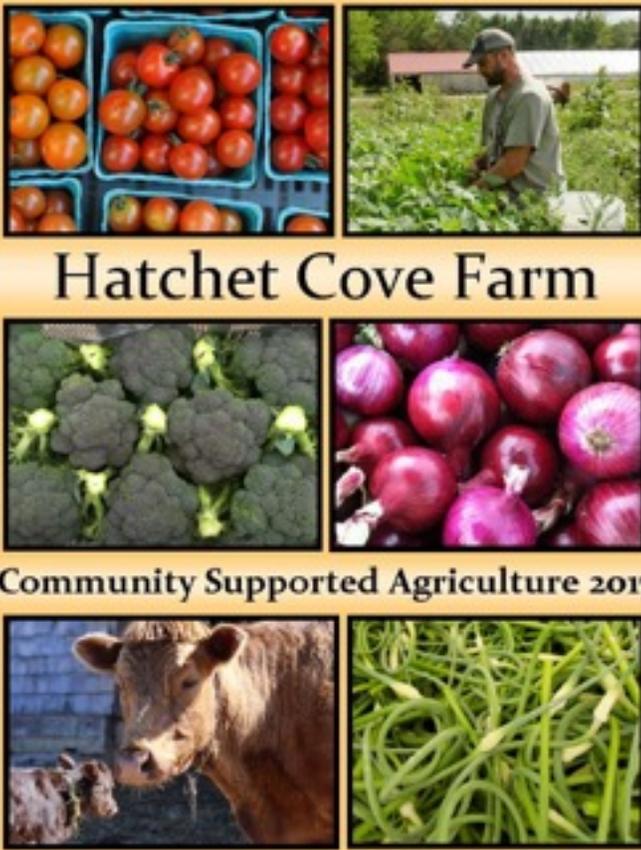
Join our Stitcher's Group We are a group of
needle-workers who meet
here every Wednesday in the Collins Room at
10AM.

Art Wall

“Over the course of a long and rather stressful winter, Kate started painting. And why not? Coast Maine is a artsy sort of place, and Kate comes from a family of painters. Plus, she is married to an artist; the house that Kate shares with her husband, Simon van der Ven has been dubbed by a friend “the house of relentless creativity.”

Where is the First Universalist minister, Reverend Mark Glovin? Mark is in the midst of a five-month sabbatical, and will be returning to the congregation at the end of May, 2017. Our Sunday pulpit will be filled by UU clergy from throughout Maine, as well as speakers from within and outside our congregation. We have a strong Pastoral Care Team in place, and church operations will continue as usual under the oversight of our skilled staff and the First Universalist Board of Trustees. Please contact our office administrator, Sarah Rogers, at 594-8750 or mail@uurockland.org with any questions or needs, and please pick up a copy of the Sabbatical Brochure on the entry table for further info. We will celebrate Mark's return in early June!

If you are newish member or even just visiting - please stop by our welcome table in the lobby and fill out a "welcome card"(tall and white with yellow logo next to the pamphlets). This card will let us know if you want a nametag, our newsletter emailed to you, if you are interested in membership, children's programs or want to talk to our minister. Please fill out one today and stick in the black box on the office door if we don't have your information already.



Hatchet Cove Farm

Community Supported Agriculture 2017

www.hatchetcovefarm.com

What do you get with a Hatchet Cove Farm CSA?

- **Over six months of farm-fresh, certified organic produce** including baby salad greens, broccoli, tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, green beans, kale, basil, shallots, potatoes, squash, garlic and much more. Visit our website to see a full list of what we grow! Spring, summer and fall CSA shares are available.
- **A great value.** The summer share includes sixteen weeks of incredibly fresh and clean organic produce for \$360. The four-week spring share costs \$80, and the six-week fall share costs \$135. There is a discount of \$20 if you sign up for all three seasons. Payments may be made online in installments, or with EBT. Financial aid is also available.
- The **"free extras and seconds"** table at each pick-up allows many members to put food by and feed their families year-round from one CSA membership!
- Add-on CSA options include **milk, bread, honey, eggs, yogurt, cheese, chicken, mushrooms** and more.
- You help make possible a **vibrant family-run farm** in the Mid-coast! CSA members are always welcome at the farm to visit the animals, see how the veggies are grown and harvested, pick herbs and flowers, or volunteer.
- Convenient pick-up locations in **Rockland** (UU church), **Rockport** (Pen Bay Hospital) and **Warren** (at the farm on Finntown Road).

For more information or to sign up online
www.hatchetcovefarm.com
 207-712-7382 info@hatchetcovefarm.com

**May 2017
Hospitality TEAMS**

- May 7 - Foxes**
- May 14 - Moose**
- May 21 - Churchmice**
- May 28 - Tigers**

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

For the **June issue** is:
Mon. May 22nd Submissions may be sent to mail@uurockland.org

**TONIANS MEET MAY 10th at NOON, on NO'ROOZ from NEGAR PAYDAR SMITH, and
about The Ripple Initiative from Sharon Setz**

**APRIL 12th MEETING: TONIANS REPRESENT -- FOUR PROJECTS WE
VOLUNTEER WITH**

The Tonian Circle will meet May 10th, second Wed. of the month, at church at noon. We gather for bag lunch and to visit, before our formal meeting starts after 12:30pm; in May, however, we'll have a short introduction to another new woman-to-woman project, The Ripple Initiative, located a few blocks down the hill from church. Sharon Setz, founder and co-director, will tell us a bit about her little shop, featuring good quality home furnishings, gifts and antiques, and explain TRI's motto: "Shop, Donate, Volunteer, Repeat." Our featured speaker for the day is Negar Smith, to explain her celebration of Persian New Year, No'Rooz, and how it has grown with the Iranian community in Maine. All are welcome to attend.

Back to our meeting on April 12th: the April meeting had been described as "Among Ourselves: Tonians Represent". We asked several members to describe projects for which they volunteer, and tell us what they need going forward, so that we may help. Lucie Bauer, board president at OUTMaine, introduced Jennifer Temple, who is OUTMaine's PR director now. Our church's history with OUT begins in 1996, the year it was founded as Out As I Want to Be, and the year our church became a Welcoming Congregation. Our involvement has continued, and Lucie helped OUT become the statewide organization it is now, working in partnership with other groups. Charme Blaisdell gave us an update on her contacts with Camden Hills Regional High School; she meets regularly now with their school nurse, Janis Hogan, as Cathy Baker does with nurse Ilmi Carter at Oceanside, to learn how we can assist kids who are out of home, food insecure or in need of basic clothing and support. The two high schools are different in their kid population and needs; Charme described what CHRHS's Wellness Team does with their funds, supplemented by money from outside. Norma Athearn gave us a report on Area Interfaith Outreach, highlighting its growth over more than 25 years (to 17 churches and the synagogue). It has expanded to meet ever-increasing need, as 16% of Maine's people continue to be food-insufficient at some point in each year (and some are, constantly). AIO is much more than a food pantry, it is a volunteer safety net, with about 140 volunteers and opportunities for more. And finally, Cathy Baker gave a brief update on the Knox Co. Health Clinic, which she has served for 17 1/2 yrs., almost since its founding by Dr. Paul and Jeannie Klainer, and for which, the need now appears unlikely ever to go away.

Hostesses for that day, were Audrey Moody, Margaret Boyajian and Sue Wieluns; Margaret had decked the tables with pots of lovely pansies, and there was dessert and coffee for all (18) of us. Before we started our meeting, Emily Peckham addressed us on behalf of the Canvass, which she has headed this year (another young woman in church leadership!). She described the Canvass goals, and the need for outreach to the church's older members; she mentioned Quiet Coffee Hour in the library, for those for whom the crowd and din downstairs makes conversation impossible, as an example of change we can make. At our business meeting, we agreed to renew our pledge at the same level as last year, and turned in our pledge card. We recruited hostesses for our May 10th meeting (Diann Henderson had volunteered last month, and Pat Pearce and Kathy Moore offered to assist). I have asked Sharon Setz, founder and co-director of The Ripple Initiative, to give a brief history of her now year-old project, at lunch, before we move on to hear Negar Smith on the celebration of No'rooz, or Persian New Year. As always, visitors will be welcome; all women of the church community are invited to become Tonians, and men are frequent and welcome guests at programs of interest. For more information on our church's women's group, contact our Secretary, Cathy Baker (snowbake@midcoast.com, 596-6865).