

NEWSLETTER

Welcome! Our worship service begins at 10AM

June 4 - "The Altar of the World" - Led by Rev. Mark Glovin

On the Sunday of our church retreat, we'll worship together outside, enjoying the beauty all around at Blueberry Cove. This experiential service is always one of our favorites of the year as the different setting allows us to worship in new ways together. This service will invite us into a joyful but poignant reverence as we reconnect to the good green Earth.

June 11 - "What's in a Word" - Led by Rev. Mark Glovin

Unitarian Universalists have been asked and invited and challenged to use the words White Supremacy to name the institutionally perpetuated System of exploitation and oppression of peoples of color. We'll examine these words and their power to make us uncomfortable. We'll look suspiciously at that discomfort and we'll use other words like covenant and humility to guide our engagement with them. This multi-media service will also celebrate those fellow travelers newly braving these tricky waters with us as we have our spring new member ceremony.

June 18 - Flower Ceremony Led by Rev. Mark Glovin

Join us for this special service as we honor the year that has passed and the community we have become. Please bring a flower or two with you to church this morning. We will say "fare thee well" ritually by each leaving with a flower brought by someone else. Symbolizing our gifts based shared ministry, this ceremony allows us to leave with a tangible, if temporary, reminder of our beloved community.

June 25 - "The Shared World" - Led by Rev. Mara Dowdall General Assembly Sunday Worship.

We'll worship virtually with thousands of other Unitarian Universalists as we stream the Sunday Morning Service from our General Assembly, taking place in New Orleans this year. Here is the service description for they service which will begin at 9:00 a.m.

The poet Naomi Shihab Nye speaks of "the shared world," in which we connect deeply with one another in and through our differences. What does it mean to live in "the shared world"? As we navigate this time of peril and possibility, beauty and anguish, despair and resistance, how might a theology and practice of "the shared world" help us find our way?



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

A WORD FROM OUR MINISTER

“We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time”
— T.S. Eliot

One of the benefits of long time partnership is that with a little effort, listening and compassion, people often get better at working together. My partner Melissa and I have certainly benefitted from our many years and many opportunities to re-live certain missed connections or misunderstandings. After a while they all begin to have a *deja vu* quality. We’ve mostly moved beyond the days of actively trying to change each other; and we work through most issues and passages with a sort of shorthand, because we can spot the land mines, predict the trouble spots and know each other’s reactions, sensitivities and unique blindnesses. It has helped us find a consistent rhythm in our life together even in moments of discord.

One of those friction points has historically been the reentry after I travel. The days or weeks apart lend themselves to more individual rhythms as we forget the need to negotiate or compromise our way through daily life. We get used to the simplicity of navigating daily life here alone or the spaciousness in the life of an individual traveling. And it usually takes a day or two for us to sync up fall back into our familiar shared rhythm.

This tendency has been on my mind as I imagine my first days and weeks back at UUR after my sabbatical. Actually, it was on my mind as I was planning my sabbatical. I very intentionally planned the schedule to give us this month together to go through the re-entry process; to give us time to catch up and re-connect, to take the necessary time to work our way toward moving in a synchronized shared rhythm without feeling the need to rush through that vital process.

These moments have the potential to be transformative: if we are open to the wisdom hidden in moments of awkwardness, if we are receptive to the growth inherent in letting go of old patterns of communication and action, if we can resist the tendency to assume we’ll know how things will be, if we can let go of old truths and stories and remain open to what emerges now.

I am really looking forward to seeing you all again, I’m curious to see what has changed in your lives as individuals and in our collective life in church, and I’m curious to see what is exactly the same and may never change. I can’t wait to be back in touch with you all: please give me call or come see me in the office to tell me what’s happening in your life or what you see as the leading edge of our church. What passages have you gone through? Is there something new and exciting going on in your life? Have you suffered some loss? found a new skill or taken on some new role in church? I’m excited to see this community and all its parts with fresh eyes. We all have this opportunity.

I’ve arrived where I started
And can know this place for the first time

Yours in growing faith
Mark



Rockland UU Church's
NEW TO YOU
Clothing Sale

SATURDAY, JUNE 10
8AM TO 2 PM

GREAT PRICES ON CLOTHING
FOR MEN, WOMEN AND
CHILDREN.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE
BOUTIQUE SECTION!

SHOES AND ACCESSORIES, TOO.



First Universalist Church in Rockland
345 Broadway
FMI: 594-8750

HAPPENINGS IN RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION...

Church Retreat June 3 & 4 at Blueberry Cove

Pack your lawn chair, sunscreen, tick repellent, knitting, book, outside toys, walking shoes and potluck food items and join us for R&R at our annual retreat. Forgot to [register](#) for Saturday?...check in with Carney (975-9994 or dre@uurockland.org) and come along. And do plan to come on Sunday morning for worship as we welcome Rev. Mark back from sabbatical. You can bring a potluck brunch item and enjoy the camp for the afternoon. Remember, there will be no worship on Sunday at the church.

Building Bridges Final Field Trip

Our youth, ages 9 and up, have been exploring other faiths around the world over the past two years with Ashby Bartke as their guide. On Sunday, June 11, they will wrap up the RE school year with a field trip to Portland. They will attend worship at the First Parish UU Church in Portland, so they can experience being in a historic church with pew boxes! Then they will get some lunch and go rock climbing at EVO. They will be using the money raised during their bake sales to help supplement this trip. Adult drivers and chaperones needed (not all parents can go). Please talk to Carney if you would like to participate and help.

RE wrap up for the school year

Sunday, June 11 will be the last official RE session for this year. The Lower Elementary group will learn the history behind our Flower Communion and then head outside to play. June 18th will be a multigenerational worship service with our Flower Ceremony (remember to bring a flower to share). Then we will take a break with no RE on June 25. The Collins Room will be open, but no formal childcare. Thank you again for everyone who stepped up to help in RE on Sunday mornings. We have a thriving group of children because you all provide the support, whether in body or with your pledge.

RE over the summer & beyond

We are looking for someone to be a regular Summer RE Guide from July 2 through September 3, providing support for our young children. This is a paid position of \$30 per Sunday, including set up and clean up. Carney Doucette, DRE, will provide training and support. If you are interested (and you can job share), please talk to Carney as soon as possible.

Also, if you are interested in being a regular RE Guide most Sundays through the school year, we will have paid positions for each age group, including youth. Job descriptions are not ready yet, but Carney will maintain a list of those people interested and will talk to you more about the jobs.

HAPPENINGS IN RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION...

Youth Partnership with OUT Maine – an update

Youth entering **6th grade** (or age equivalent) and up are invited to become part of a summer group that will explore and plan a social justice initiative using a curriculum from the Maine Youth Action Network. Over five 3-hour sessions, you will be guided to brainstorm, research and create a plan for doing social justice work, ready to implement next Fall. OUT Maine, who received this grant, will assist with the facilitating. Once we know who is participating, we will figure out the schedule – probably a combination of Sunday mornings and perhaps an overnight or evening with a campfire. Interested? Adult guides and youth, please contact Carney.

Story Basket Makers

The Religious Exploration Committee is gathering stories, so we can make some new Spirit Play baskets. We will have new stories about racism, death, money, our principles and sources, and our own stories from UUR. If you enjoy doing creative work, we can give you a story to create a basket with along with some guidelines and samples. Email Carney at dre@uurockland.org if you would like to help.

Rock away – rocking chair reminder

Our rocking chairs in the back of the Sanctuary are not just for babies and elders. We know there are those who sometimes are feeling depressed or have achy bones and muscles and just need to snuggle up in a rocker for morning worship. Please pay attention – if you see someone looking longingly at a rocker or even asks if they might be able to sit in one that morning, and you feel you can move, please do so. And if anyone has an extra Canadian rocker to donate (they take up less space), let the office know.

Our UUBB Annual Selection/Picnic Potluck meeting will be held on June 28, 2017, at the home of Diann Henderson, 10 Maple Street, Camden, at 11:30 a.m.

Thank you to the Clark Family, Meinersmann Family and Ralph Field for participating in the *Guest at Your Table program this year*. Your contributions our helping our own service organization, UUSC, help people around the world as they work on economic justice, human rights and environmental justice issues.

Please report any Buildings or Grounds issues, wants, needs or concerns by filling out a lime green form on the clipboard by the lift.



Liefe holds up a seed bomb



Rioux, Lily and Mia plant boxes



Peter Proeller teaching kids to build



Seed Bomb Making



Eli & Miggy building a plant box



Thank you Ann and Noreen and Rebecca for a GREAT PLANT SALE!

Seeking Volunteers for the Membership Committee

On June 11th, we will welcome a new group of members to our community. The Board was given some great feedback about how we welcome visitors on Sundays, how overwhelming coffee hour can be to new people visiting, and also how hard it can be to break into the crowd here even after joining the church. The Membership Committee consists of me, Caitlin Clark. I need help!

I would love to have a group of current members to call on in the following capacities:

- Help with Path to Membership class and New Member Breakfast twice a year.
- Serve as a consistent greeter, both in the foyer before services and as people transition to coffee hour. (Hospitality Teams don't always have enough people to do this consistently.)
- Serve as a New Member Mentor for 1-2 years to help a new member integrate into the community, answer any questions they have, make introductions at coffee hour and other church events, and make sure they feel supported in our community.
- If you are interested in helping with any of the above, please contact me! **You do not need to commit to all three, just one is helpful!** caitlin.s.clark@gmail.com or

You are invited to **Justice Ministry Matters**,
on Thursday evening, June 8 from 7-8:30 pm in our Sanctuary.

We share the plate. We green our sanctuaries. We serve meals. We transform church buildings into homeless shelters. We demonstrate in the streets. We hold vigils and raise banners. We petition. We vote. We engage in civil disobedience. We take service-learning trips. But what makes any of these actions a ministry? More particularly, what makes them a justice ministry?

Allowing our social action to become justice ministry takes intention and practice -- both of which are often overlooked or sidestepped in our rush to save the world from disaster or to dodge a sense of hopelessness, pain and inadequacy.

This webinar will examine current practices and common pitfalls to justice work in congregations. **WHAT** we do to address injustice matters, but **HOW** we address injustice matters, too. Join us for this webinar if you want to reignite your justice work with community practices rooted in purpose and gifts.

This is a webinar by the New England Region of the UUA, presented by Meck Groot, Justice Ministries Lead and Cora McCold, Justice Ministries Intern and streamed into our sanctuary.

For more information, contact Peter Lehman.

Special Request from Kate Braestrup! If you recently purchased one of Kate's beautiful paintings, she would like it if you could take a photo of it and email it to her at kateo@tidewater.net. Also if you purchased a painting, they are now stacked in the office, please do come on Sunday when the office is open, collect your painting and leave a check with "Kate Painting" in the memo line and stick it in the box on the door so that I can let Kate know a total soon of what her donation brought in. Thank you so much!

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.

Shoppers!

If you have a chance to pick up feminine hygiene products for One Less Worry, any sizes of pads are welcome, but we need chiefly regular-sized tampons at present. We make up packs of 20 assorted sizes of pads or tampons to hand out at Area Interfaith Outreach's food pantry, and we happen to have lots of super and extra sizes in tampons. But when it comes to toilet paper, any size package (that you can carry), and any brands, are welcome. We distribute over 1,200 rolls a month at AIO. We figure that makes One Less Worry for our families, since none of these products are available with SNAP benefits. Any questions? Cathy Baker (596-6865)

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.

Join our Stitcher's Group every Wednesday in the Collins Room at 10AM.

We are a group of needle-workers who meet regularly to needlepoint, do embroidery, as well as other forms of needlework. All stitchers are welcome!

June 2017 Hospitality TEAMS

June 4 - Chickadees

June 11 - Loons

June 18 - Herons

June 25 - Eagles

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

For the **July issue** is:

Mon. June 26th Submissions may be sent to mail@uurockland.org

**TONIANS MEET in MAY to CELEBRATE NOW'RUZ with NEGAR SMITH,
and to HEAR about THE RIPPLE INITIATIVE from SHARON SETZ
NEXT MEETING is JUNE 14th, to DISCUSS SUMMER PLANS and PROJECTS -- ALL WELCOME**

The Tonian Circle is our church's women's group, now 83 years old, and open to all women of the church community. We meet the second Wed. of each month, often with a program, and men are welcome whenever we have one that interests them. Our last meeting, May 10th, was at church, to hear Sharon Setz from the Ripple Initiative, and to enjoy a wonderful explanation and celebration of Negar Smith's Persian New Year, now 3733 years old. We feel strongly that this should be an annual event, in March, around the time the Spring Equinox arrives. Hostesses for this festive and busy day were Diann Henderson, Pat Pearce, and Kathy Moore, who set out coffee and dessert, including the baklava Negar had made for 'Eide Shoma Mobarak', the only time that Iranians typically include sweets in meals and at visits. We had a good crowd (18, including our guest Sharon Setz and Penny's friend Priscilla Slade), and we made time first to hear Sharon speak about her now-year-old project, the Ripple Initiative, which solicits donations of home furnishing in good condition to re-sell, with the profit going to benefit people in need in our area. Their specialty is helping Hospitality House families furnish their own apartments when they're ready to move out of the shelter. Sharon told her own story, of needing help after her grandson Patrick's accident, and being amazed by the myriad ways people found to support her and her family. This inspired her to find a way to help others deal with hard times. Her shop is located at the corner of Union and Willow St. in Rockland, just a few blocks from the church. People are invited to visit, to call or check the website, www.therippleinitiative.org to donate, shop and/or volunteer.

After Sharon spoke, we gathered desserts and conducted some business. We agreed to donate \$300 to the Ripple Initiative, and the same to One Less Worry, which we had heard about at our March meeting. Then we settled down to hear Negar show us the beautiful table she had prepared for us, and explain how Now'Ruz was celebrated in her home city of Shiraz. It continues to be the most important holiday in Iran's calendar, and it lasts the better part of two weeks, rather like China's new year. Negar listed all the countries in which Now'Ruz is celebrated, and gave a history of Persia; she went over the myriad customs of the holiday, the cleaning of the house, seven foods on the tablecloth spread on the floor, and much more. She even brought her beautiful fish in a traveling bowl, since that along with the fresh green of the wheat-grass garden she'd made to show us, are symbols of the promise of the new year. We agreed that this celebration should be part of our church calendar in the future, and we thank Negar for her presentation and all the materials she gathered for us, including some films of the diversity of the Iranian people and their country.

Our next meeting, June 14th (Flag Day) is at church. It's an informal meeting, entre nous, and we have hostess volunteers recently recruited in case the original ones, Eleanor Richardson and Kathryn Avery, are otherwise occupied, or preoccupied. Eleanor's husband Peter suffered a major health emergency on May 11th, and he has been at Maine Med since then, recovering. Kathryn Avery moved her 93 yr. old dad east from Colorado after her stepmother died, and she and Chris now plan to move back out there with him for the summer, to deal with home repairs. So, special thanks to Margaret Boyajian, Norma Athearn and Gin Mackey for stepping up as hostesses for the 14th. Our "program" consists of general discussion of Summer Icumen In, and what we'd like to do, what we're pretty sure we need to do, and how to balance this out without missing this sweet season, our region's Salad Days. We also need to make plans for our summer meetings, when we often have relocated for a change of scene on 2nd Wednesdays. Please bring a bag lunch and join us at noon on the 14th -- all welcome! For more information about Tonians, call or write Cathy Baker, Secretary, at 596-6865, or snowbake@midcoast.com.

APRIL 30th "LOAVES & FISHES" HOT MEAL
-- A NEW RECORD: 6 PROTEINS PLUS VEG, FRUIT... THE WORKS

In our most recent trip to Soup Kitchen at St. Peter's Episcopal (properly known as Loaves & Fishes weekend hot meal rotation), the only protein source we didn't have on the menu was fish. And maybe tofu, unless Lorrie Kniesner added some to her famous Am. Chop Suey, which usually features hamburger. We have never had so many exciting dinner options -- or so few people lining up to eat -- and we have no idea why any of this occurred. To begin with, here is who came to help, and what we brought:

We had roast lamb. This has never happened before, but thanks to Mary and Joe Patten, a frozen boneless roast made its way from AIO's overcrowded freezer to ours, and Susan St. John roasted and sliced it. We had two beef pot roasts, gifts from Anne Mynttinen's employer Mr. Granville; we finished roasting them, sliced and served with a big pan of roast potatoes, parsnips, carrots and onions, made up by Cathy Baker. We had two huge, farm-raised roasting chickens, donated by Hayden Williamson, who cut them into serving pieces and roasted them, then wrapped each in foil and chilled them. We had about 12 lbs. to give away, for take-home meals. We had famous pulled pork sandwiches, thanks to Carney Doucette, with extra rolls from Audrey Moody. We had Lorrie's big pot of chop suey, and Phyllis Parson's famous layered potato - ground beef - carrot - tomato hotpot, both of which our diners love. We had two boneless hams, and many pints of baked beans and coleslaw, brought by the Klainers from an Owls Head Preserve fundraiser Sat. night. We had another big bowl of coleslaw from Beth Wilson (with pineapple!), even though she was recovering from abdominal surgery. We had green salad with all the veggies from Margaret Boyajian. We had famous egg salad sandwiches, with eggs from Lorrie, Ashby Bartke, Mary Tolles, and John Wood, many eaten with the meal, many more taken home. We had a gallon and a half of milk, and the same of cider, from John Wood and Melissa Holt. We had fresh fruit for take-home, acres of bananas (most beloved), clementines and apples, from

Diann Henderson and Candace Vancko, and platters of luscious brownies (Penny Dunning) and cookies (Kathy Moore). And we had generous cash donations from Louise Cadwgan, Levina Gerritsen, Ralph Field and Bob Birk, which allows us to reimburse cooks, and send any left over to AIO.

We had awesome kitchen help, in shifts. On the cook & serve line: John Wood and Kelly Walker, Susan St. John, Jim and Mary Tolles, Diann Henderson, Margaret Boyajian, Kathy Moore, Lorrie Kniesner, and Cathy Baker. Our clean-up crew had us all done & dusted, dished and mopped, by 2pm. We did not have kids, on the line or in our crowd of diners. In fact, it's amazing how few diners we had -- Kelly counted 16 sitting down at one point, but of course, people move around, go hide, and come and go. One lady didn't want to come in, so her husband took her dinner out to the car (I had no idea they had a car; they never used to). And after we'd finished parceling out acres of food, I found a young man with a serious backpack sitting on the library steps (the library is closed on Sundays now). It was getting cold, and he acknowledged that he hadn't had lunch. I went back in and fetched a boxful of portable food, and told him to pick out what he wanted while I closed up the kitchen. That turned out to be everything. So our dining total worked out to 28, but that's a fraction of our usual crowd, and as I said, we have no idea why. We were prepared for more, but we managed to send home all the food we'd brought and made, and it was a good day. Thanks to all -- our next trip is Sunday, July 30th, which calls for a summer menu.

Cathy Baker