

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
Wednesday, December 18, 2024

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69 Winthrop St., Augusta ME
(207)622-3232 – info@augustauu.org
www.augustauu.org

A Message from our Minister

Seasons Greetings!

As time moves forward and life calls us in different directions, may you find time for centering, community, courage and care. I hope you'll join UUCC for Sunday services, a special Christmas Eve service along with other opportunities.

Love and Light,

Rev. Donna, she, her

UUCC's Ministry for Children & their Adults!

Are you interested in helping to re-build the Unitarian Universalist Community Church's Family Ministry to children and their adults? In January, Reverend Donna will be reaching out to interested folks to share ideas and develop strategies. If you are interested in being invited into this conversation, please fill [out this online](#) form indicating your interest. Long link: <https://uuccme.breezechms.com/form/86f36a>

[New Website on the Way...](#)

Are you a committee Chair? Do you serve in leadership at this time here at UUCC?

Call to all Chairs and Co-chairs: Please fill out this [website information form](#) to help gather some basic information that will inform the development of UUCC's new website.

Long link: <https://forms.gle/NPbmbRnEBViK9d6f7>

Upcoming Services

<p>Sunday December 22, 2024</p> <p>Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<p>Reverend Donna Dolham</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Nan Bell will be our worship associate. Cheryl Ring will run slides developed by Hanna Brown and Angie Blevins will manage Boxcast technology. Stefanie Barley will be our pianist and Michaela Loisel will lead the team that is hosting coffee hour. Our greeter will be Jim Caldwell.</p>
<p>Tuesday December 24, 2024</p> <p>4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Christmas Eve SERVICE</p> <p>IN PERSON & ONLINE 4:30PM</p> <p>LESSONS & CAROLS THE UUCC CHOIR & ORCHESTRA</p> <p>THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST COMMUNITY CHURCH 69 WINTRHOP STREET, AUGUSTA, MAINE</p> <p>Our Christmas Eve Service will be held in the Sanctuary <u>and Boxcast</u>. Use the same Boxcast link as Sunday services (below).</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Marty Peters will be our worship associate. Nan Bell will run slides developed by Rev. Donna and Angie Blevins will manage Boxcast technology.</p> <p>Our choir and orchestra will present "River" by Joni Mitchell. The choir will be led by Music Director, Bridget Convey and the UUCC Occasional Orchestra, led by Orchestra Director, Michael P. Atkinson. Our Pianist will be Karen Allen and our greeter will be Michaela Loisel.</p> <p>This just in: →Soloist Joelle Morris will also join us!</p>

<p>Sunday December 29, 2024</p> <p>Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<p>An “Almost” New Year Nan Bell and Kathy Kellison</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Marty Peters will manage Boxcast technology. Nan Bell will develop slide deck. Karen Foust will be our pianist and our greeter will be Karen Allen. Nancy Fritz will lead the team that is hosting coffee hour</p>
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Sunday worship service is held IN-PERSON in the Sanctuary. Please be aware that the church doors will be locked 10 minutes after the service begins. The greeter will be at the front door to let anyone in after that time.

As a community committed to “going green”, we do not hand out paper orders of service.

If you would like to print one at home or bring it up on your phone during the service, don’t hesitate to go to our online order of service.

The order of service is updated on Fridays. [Here is the OOS link](#)

If you want to watch the livestream of the service, please visit:

<https://boxcast.tv/channel/mtifpth0utvesjggivej>

If you missed a service or want to watch a service again, the link above also allows access to prior services. Click on the play button on the video of the “broadcast date” you are interested in watching. Services may be viewed by Boxcast for a week after the service is live.

Accessibility Reminders

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|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please leave the empty spots in the first two rows of the sanctuary seating for our folks using wheelchairs.• Due to fragrance allergies, we are asking people not to wear perfumes or natural scents when attending services and programming at UUC. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you require one of our hearing assistance devices to access services, please ask the greeter for assistance.• Please let us know how we can help you engage with our community! |
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Special Events / Notices / Opportunities

The UUC choir and orchestra will be enriching our Christmas Eve service this year! Soloist Joelle Morris will be joining us on a holiday favorite, as well as Joni Mitchell’s “River”.
It will be a fabulous evening of music!

**The Covenant Engagement Team (CET) would like to remind us
of our December Covenant Promise.**

It is: “Because we value our relationships with each other, we promise to: Get to know another, create opportunities to gather, work, and play together, and build trust in our relationships. “

Annual appeal!

You will be receiving an annual appeal letter in the mail, if you haven't already! As you consider your end of year contributions to the many important causes out there, please consider UUC. A critical piece of our Annual Budget, approved in June, was \$15,000 from the Annual Appeal. To help us reach that goal, for the sixth consecutive year, a member of our beloved congregation has offered *a \$6,000 Annual Appeal matching gift, if we can raise the first \$6,000.*

Your generosity makes possible outreach to the wider Augusta community, stewardship of our three campus buildings, fair wages to our employees and the ongoing presence of Unitarian Universalist values. We appreciate your support of the Unitarian Universalist Community Church in Augusta. If you have questions reach out to: Terry Cairn (tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com) or Betty Cairn (stonehengemaine@yahoo.com).



From Small Group Ministry Committee

During Sundays in December, meet us at the Small Group Ministry Table during Fellowship Hour. There will be brochures, applications to participate in SGM, and talk with people who are or have been part of SGM!

Linda Findlay and Helen Zidowecki

-- NEW -- January Sustainable Health & Breast Health Qigong

Sustainable Health means finding ways to feel happy and healthy through simple, low/no cost daily habits. The 30 minute Breast Health Qigong practice can calm the mind, strengthen the body, and increase energy and vitality. These 7 simple, gentle movements stimulate the body's energy meridians for prevention, as well as support during surgery, treatment, and recovery. Join us regardless of where you are on your journey.

Each class will offer tips that use the five *healing occupations* of Sustainable Health: playing, sleeping, eating, working, and loving. Join us on Tuesdays, 4 to 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall. For more information contact visit www.breastcancer.com or contact Susan Roberts (susanrobertsOT@gmail.com or www.susanroberts.com)

**** Upcoming events to add to your calendar!****

January 12, 2024 **Inquirers Series:** The Inquirers Series is a rotation of 9 conversations about church and Unitarian Universalism. This series is designed for visitors and newcomers who are looking for a general introduction. Old timers may attend occasionally if they have an interest in the topic. The series will be held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. The kick off will be January 12th, led by Rev. Donna Dolham. The subject will be Q & A with the minister.

Grab your coffee after church, we will meet at 11:15 in the meeting room next to the nursery. FMI: Global Hospitality Chair, Susan O'Keefe, slcburnett@me.com or 242-9100.

February 20, 2025 **The Shared Pulpit Class... A winter opportunity**

“Using a series of small group meetings, this program aims to deepen connection and trust among participants—the seeking minds and caring hearts of Unitarian Universalists.... Along the way, you’ll discover your authentic voice by writing a sermon to deliver to the congregation.” ~ Erika Hewitt from her book and program guide, The Shared Pulpit, A Sermon Seminar for Lay People. Watch for more information about dates and registration. Class size will be limited due to the nature of the process. The class will be facilitated by Rev. Donna Dolham and Sara Hodgkins.

We will meet the 3rd and 4th Thursdays in February, March and April 2025. Join us 6-8 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Are you interested in offering programming or scheduling an event for the UCC community?

Please use this [program request online form](#) to help guide the process.

Connections by Day of the Week

ALL church events and meetings are reflected on the UCC calendar
Click below to view ALL events, including any group meetings or other business meetings.


<https://www.augustauu.org/calendar-and-communications/>



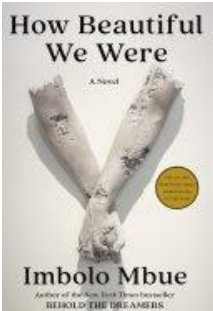
[Click here to join Events in the Zoom Room](#)

For other ways to join Zoom, see [General Information](#)

Zoom meeting id: 823 807 0673 – Password: 6971

<u>Monday</u> <u>Each week</u> <u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u> See details	<u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u> We meet EVERY Monday online. You may join us at 6:15 to settle in. PLEASE NOTE: Starting on December 2, the group will also meet in-person in the Sanctuary (not hybrid), ONLY on the first Monday of each month.
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	<p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated Zoom login information at: email: martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com <u>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</u></p> 
<p>2nd & 4th <u>Monday</u> <u>9:30 – Noon</u></p> <p>Next Meeting is Dec. 23rd</p>	<p><u>Sewing/Craft/Hobby Group</u></p> <p>Sewing/Craft/Hobby Group meets in the Fellowship Hall the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon. We ask that attendees help set up and put away tables and chairs.</p> <p>Just bring whatever you'd like to work on, machine or hand sewing, craft or hobby item you are working on, and we will all help one another as needed. Be sure to let us know if there is anything you need from one of us...we are likely to have whatever it is! Martha 887-1104 or 303-5859 / Nancy 213-3047. All are welcome. Bring a friend, if you like.</p>
<p><u>Tuesday</u> <u>10:30 a.m.</u></p> <p><u>UCC</u> <u>Virtual</u> <u>Zoom</u></p>	<p><u>Lectio Divina</u></p> <p>A weekly Lectio Divina program will be offered weekly on Tuesdays beginning on September 10th from 10:30 to 11:30. Lectio Divina can be translated as divine reading. We will share a chalice lighting, centering meditation, sharing and reflection time based with a variety of sources.</p> <p>This program will be facilitated by Rev. Donna Dolham and Lori Milner and is open to the wider community. Join as you're able, you do not need to attend every week, although you are welcome to!</p>
<p><u>Tuesday</u> <u>4:00 pm</u></p> <p><u>Weekly</u></p>	<p><u>Drop-in Sustainable Heath Qijong group</u></p> <p>Not meeting in December – Join us for new programming in January.</p> <p>See notices.</p> <p>This weekly "drop-in" group is available to anyone who wants to explore qigong and TCM's approach to health and healing. Attending is free but donations are encouraged to offset the cost of the use of the space. FMI: Susan Roberts (718-517-0807), and email (slrotr1@gmail.com).</p>
<p><u>Wednes-</u> <u>day</u> <u>6:00 -</u> <u>7:30 p.m.</u></p>	<p><u>UCC Choir Rehearsal</u></p> <p>Our choir will not meet for rehearsals again until January 8th.</p> <p>Our weekly choir rehearsal takes place from 6pm to 7:30pm in the sanctuary. We look forward to welcoming new members! Inquiries to Bridget Convey at musicdirector@augustauu.org.</p>

<p><u>Wednesdays</u> Each Week <u>5:00 – 6:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Gentle YOGA</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hosted by Debbie Mattson</p>  <p>UU Yoga is offered as a hybrid gathering. People can choose to gather in the Fellowship Hall for yoga, Wednesdays 5 PM-6 PM or join via zoom. Here is the zoom link:</p> <p>https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOT-RXa3VoUT09 ----- Password: 174192</p> <p>Please join us a few minutes before 5:00 to settle in so we can begin class right at 5 p.m. FMI: DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</p>
<p><u>2nd & 4th Wednesday</u> <u>1:00-2:30pm</u> 2nd and 4th Zoom ONLY</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Seasoned Souls</u></p> <p>Seasoned Souls is a group of participants in the UUCS community who are over 65 years of age and meet as a study/support group to talk openly about topics related to the aging process. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. in the UUCS Zoom Room only. We will not meet in the Fellowship Hall until future notice.</p> <p>FMI: For more information please contact Hal Booth at halbooth1@yahoo.com or (207)623-8383 [land-line, no text].</p>
<p><u>Thursdays</u> Each Week <u>8:00 – 9:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></p> <p>You may join us at 7:45 a.m. to settle in. Meet from 8-9:30 -- IN-PERSON every Thursday at the River Studio, 332 Water St. Hallowell (except the last Thursday of the month) --BY Private ZOOM – last Thursday of the month</p>  <p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com <i>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</i></p>
<p><u>1st Thursday</u> <u>Noon-1:30</u> <u>p.m.</u> Next Meeting is Jan 2nd</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Read Learn Share Book Group</u></p> <p>We are a friendly and thoughtful group. We meet regularly on the first Thursday of the month from noon until 1:30 in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom. We welcome anyone who wants to join us. Come once or always! FMI: contact June Zellers at jzellers@roadrunner.com or Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com.</p> <p>We will meet on January 2 to discuss <u>HOW BEAUTIFUL WE WERE</u> by Imolo Mbue</p> <p>"The unforgettable story of a community on the wrong end of Western greed, <i>How Beautiful We Were</i> will enthrall you, appall you, and show you what is possible when a few people stand up and say this is not right. A masterful novel by a spellbinding writer engaged with the most urgent questions of our day."</p> 

	<p>—David Ebershoff, bestselling author of <i>The Danish Girl</i></p> <p>We are an open group, so you are welcome to this discussion or any of those in the future. The full list of the books for the year is available on our website calendar (in the details of any book group meeting).</p>
<p><u>Fridays</u> <u>Each Week</u></p> <p><u>6:00 – 7:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p><u><i>Fabulous Friday AA Meeting</i></u></p> <p>Join us for this Alcoholics Anonymous meeting from 6-7pm in the church at 69 Winthrop St. Please enter through the Summer Street door and join us in the room straight ahead and through the double doors.</p>
<p><u>4th</u> <u>Friday</u></p> <p><u>6:30 – 8:30</u> <u>Sanctuary</u></p> <p>Next Meeting is Jan. 25th</p>	<p><u><i>Free Style Drum Circle</i></u></p> <p>The Circle is not meeting on December 27 – next meeting is Jan. 25th.</p> <p>The Augusta Community Drum Circle is a free style drum circle welcoming people of all ages, walks of life, and abilities. Free style means no one is assigned ‘pieces’ to play. Just play! Or don’t play! Just come watch, sing, dance, or bring your own instruments. No one cares if you’ve never played before or if you make a mistake. As long as you are having fun you can’t get it wrong! <u>ALL are welcome.</u> Event is FREE, No RSVP, just come!</p> <p>The Drum Circle meets the fourth Friday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. For more information you can contact Mike Moody at mtmoods@gmail.com or 229-1118.</p>
<p><u>Every</u> <u>Saturday</u></p> <p>9:00–11 am in the Sanctuary</p>	<p><u><i>UUC Occasional Orchestra</i></u></p> <p>Rehearsals are held Saturdays in the Sanctuary from 9:00-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Come and share your musical talents with our UUC community. All are welcome, please join us!</p> <p>Questions: please contact our UUCOO Orchestra Director, Michael P. Atkinson at: mpatkinson@gmail.com.</p>
<p><u>3rd</u> <u>Sunday</u></p> <p><u>11am-</u> <u>12:30 p.m.</u></p> <p>Next Lunch is Jan. 19th</p>	<p>FELLOWSHIP LUNCH 3rd Sunday (October – June) 11:30-12:30pm, Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Enjoy community at a restaurant style sit-down meal. We generally have a "base" kitchen crew but need a few extra volunteers to help set up and serve. To sign up, please email Marilyn Dunn (maine2007@hotmail.com or call (207) 512-5382.</p>

<p><u>4th</u> <u>Sunday</u></p> <p><u>1-2:30</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> <p>Next Meeting is Dec 22nd</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Goddess / Earth Circles</u></p> <p>December 22, 1:00-3:00pm, In person in the Fellowship Hall and with UUCC zoom. THE TURNING OF THE YEAR AS A CYCLE OF HOPE</p> <p>WINTER SOLSTICE Meditation and activities for engaging with the cycles of the earth as part of spiritual practice.</p> <p>More information is available at Goddess/Earth Circles on the website. Goddess/Earth Circles focuses on the phases of our lives and earth-based spirituality.</p> <p>All ages and genders are welcome FMI Contact Helen Zidowecki (207-582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com).</p>
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Notices / Updates / News

The Covenant Engagement Team (CET)

Our promise for December is: “Because we value our relationships with each other, we promise to: Get to know one another, created opportunities to gather, work, and play together, and build trust in our relationships.”

We’re wondering WHERE at the UUCC you are gathering to work and play together? WHERE are you building trusting relationships?

TELL US by using the poster boards in the Fellowship Hall. Just put a mark by each activity at church in which you are building relationships. At the end of the month, we’ll make a Word Cloud of your responses.

In fellowship,
The Covenant Engagement Team
The Rev. Donna Dolham, Michaela Loisel, and June Zellers

Social Justice Updates

Stay tuned for updates on social justice issues / events in the next E-Blast.

Board of Trustees

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

At the December 12 meeting the Board:

- Heard from Buildings and Grounds about repairs needed at Judd House
- Voted to upgrade the electrical system in the church kitchen and install a vent.
- Discussed repairing or replacing the vacuum cleaner in the church
- Heard an update on progress on refurbishing Drew House so it can be rented again
- Authorized Buildings and Grounds to contract for snow removal
- Voted to continue as fiscal sponsor for MUUSAN through June 2025
- Voted to establish the housing allowance for the minister at \$42,785.
- Voted to give the church administrator access to the Board's shared drive
- Discussed the final items to be funded by the safety grant
- Discussed the possibility of acquiring a defibrillator
- Decided not to apply for another safety grant
- Plan to put the alarm system on a timer

Complete minutes will be posted on the UUCC website and on the Board of Trustees bulletin board in the church vestibule when they are available.

The next board meeting is Thursday, January 9, 2024.

All are welcome to attend but please see the [UUCC Policy for Board Meeting Visitors](#).

If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider, please contact michaelatloisel@gmail.com.

General Information

Worship Services are held IN-PERSON
Events may still be held virtually in the
UUCC ZOOM ROOM

Other ways to UUCC Zoom Room Zoom:

1. **Join from your internet browser by clicking this link or typing this into your browser:**
<https://zoom.us/j/8238070673>, launch Zoom, then enter **passcode: 6971**
2. **Select "Join Meeting" from the Zoom application on your computer or mobile device.**

UUCC Meeting ID: 823 807 0673 – then enter **passcode: 6971**

3. Join by phone: dial 1 646 558 8656 (**NOTE:** toll charge may apply)

At first prompt (meeting id: 823 807 0673#)

At second prompt: press # (no personal id needed) <No passcode needed when joining by phone>

NOTE---*6 is mute AND un-mute on your phone. The host cannot mute or un-mute people who phone-in.

HOSTS: Once in your meeting, claim the host using the **HOST KEY** as you have done in the past.

UUCC Pastoral Ministry Team

We are here for you. Feel free to reach out in times of need for compassionate listening, for casual conversation, to share some good news, to share your struggle or just to say hello.

Martha Pelletier, Chair	207-685-9592 (h)	pellsav64@gmail.com
Helen Zidowecki	207-582-5308 (h)	hzmre@hzmre.com
Peggy Lamb	207 622-5174 (h)	plambflowers@outlook.com
Lori Milner	520-437-3442 (c)	lmilner3@gmail.com

Caring Cooperative support includes rides, meals, errands, get well and condolence cards as well as companion visits.

If you would like to request or suggest meal support: contact Martha Pelletier 685-9592.

If you would like to request or suggest cards: contact Peggy Lamb 622-5174.

UUCC Small Group Ministry



Looking for greater human and spiritual connection during this most disconnected of times? Small Group Ministry offers this vital need in our spiritual community, and so much more! For more information, contact Linda Findlay (207-377-8028, linda.findlay@gmail.com) or Helen Zidowecki (207-582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com)

UUCC Office Hours & Notes

UPDATED E-blast & Office Hours

E-blasts will be produced on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. The upcoming schedule is:

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the office being closed between Christmas and New Year's Day, we have had to reschedule the January E-blast schedule to be the follows:

1/1 changed to 1/8 AND 1/15 changed to 1/22

- E-Blast (12/18)
- NO E-blast (12/25)
- NO E-Blast (1/1)
- E-Blast (1/8)

EBLAST SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Articles due by noon on Tuesday, the day before the E-blast is distributed. Articles received after this time may not be included in the E-blast. Send articles to admin@augustauu.org

UUC Office Hours NEXT WEEK

Church Administrator - Open office hours:

Tues, Wed and Thurs – 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Rev. Donna Dolham

Minister's study – (207) 623-3663

Pastoral Emergencies only - use cell phone

Email: minister@augustauu.org

Visit [Calendly Scheduling Link](#) to schedule an appointment with Rev. Dolham.

Minister's Fall schedule

Mondays will be Rev. Donna's Sabbath. If you are having a pastoral care emergency, please call her cell phone and leave a message at: 207 701-1581.

Fridays will be a writing day and Rev. Donna will not regularly be checking emails or returning non urgent calls.

<p><u>Staff Contact information:</u> <u>Church Administrator</u>, Lynn M. Smith, admin@augustauu.org, Phone (207)622-3232 <u>Music Director</u>, Bridget Convey, musicdirector@augustauu.org</p>
