

# Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

Wednesday, June 1, 2022

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[www.augustauu.org](http://www.augustauu.org)

## A Message from the Minister

I hope everyone enjoyed the warm weather over the holiday weekend. Div, Dobby the dog, and I went kayaking on Crescent Lake in Raymond. It was a lovely day off!

It is hard to believe that it is almost time to say goodbye! We will be saying goodbye over the next month. I hope I get a chance to spend a bit of time with all of you. I will be continuing my "Coffee with Chloe" sessions on Tuesdays from 10–11 am on the church Zoom. I would also love to schedule individual appointments to say goodbye. Perhaps we can have coffee in the UUCC yard or lunch by the waterfront in Hallowell or chat over zoom! Please be in touch.

Kathy Ann Shaw announced on Sunday that the congregation has not yet found an interim minister to serve UUCC next year. I know this is startling news. A working group, appointed by the board, is currently forming to consider possible options going forward. Among those options may be ¼ time ministry, part-time ministry, virtual ministry, or a combination of these options. This will be one of our topics for the annual meeting on Sunday. If you can't attend the annual meeting, we still welcome your thoughts and questions about these possibilities. Please send Kathy ([kathyannshaw@roadrunner.com](mailto:kathyannshaw@roadrunner.com)) and me an email or give one of us a call. We want to make sure everyone's voice is heard in this process.

As always, you are invited to reach out to me for any reason. I am available for a conversation by appointment.

With care,  
Chloe Briede, Interim Minister  
[chloeucc@gmail.com](mailto:chloeucc@gmail.com)  
207-623-3663

## Upcoming Services

### Worship Theme for June – Celebrating Blessings

*Join us as we explore the challenges and adventures of Celebrating Blessings.*

<p>THIS Sunday June 5, 2022 10:00 a.m. Ingathering music to begin at 9:50 a.m.</p> <p><b>Ways to join</b> <b>To vote:</b> please join us: In Person By Zoom By phone (through Zoom)</p> <p>You can still join by Boxcast (but you cannot vote).</p>	<p><b>"Annual Meeting as a Spiritual Practice"</b></p> <p>The business of the church is as much a spiritual practice as anything we do on Sunday morning, Tuesday night or Wednesday at noon. In this service the spiritual practice of church governance is a tangible expression of our faith.</p> <p>A special thank you to everyone who is participating. Susan Claska Burnett will serve as our worship associate. Stefanie Barley will be our pianist.</p> <p><b><u>WE NEED YOU!!</u></b> Without a quorum of members, we cannot conduct the business of this church. We need to approve minutes from last year's annual meeting, commission new Board members and committee leaders, look at this year's finances and approve a new budget for next year, and more...</p> <p><b>*** We cannot proceed without our members. ***</b> <b>Please join us to see democracy in action!</b></p>
<p>NEXT Sunday June 12, 2022</p> <p>10:00 a.m. IN-PERSON Ingathering music to begin at 9:50 a.m.</p>	<p><b>"Flower Communion"</b> Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister</p> <p>Flower Communion celebrates beauty, human uniqueness, diversity, and community. Join us in this beloved UU ritual that signifies our theology of centering both the individual's and the community's search for truth and meaning.</p> <p>In this annual multigenerational service the symbolism of flowers highlights the individuality amid the collective of this community. <u>The service includes the practice of bringing a flower from your home garden to the service.</u> The choir will sing their final song for the church year.</p> <p>Worship associate- Marilyn Gordon, Choir &amp; Bridget Convey, Pianist- Karen Foust, Wisdom Story- Monique Bergere.</p> <p><b><u>AFTER THE SERVICE</u></b>, join us for coffee fellowship and CAKE to celebrate Don and Martha Naber's 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.</p>

**Sunday worship service is now being held IN-PERSON in the Sanctuary.**

Our services are no longer accessible by Zoom (except for our Annual meeting)

(see next page for livestream boxcast link)

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

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

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

## **Special Events / Opportunities**

***Events are still being held in the UCC Zoom Room (unless noted).***

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

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



## **to the Harlow Gallery**

**100 Water Street, Hallowell, ME 04347-1315**

**(Street Level entry on right side)Thurs., June 2 through Sat., June 4, 2022 - 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

***to view a Mini Photographic Exhibit by  
UCC member, Bruce Bierce***

One of our beloved church members, photographer Bruce Bierce, is now severely physically disabled and unable to leave his home in Fayette except for doctor’s appointments. His wife Judy, and others close to Bruce, have arranged an exhibit for this week on the easily accessible ground floor of the Harlow Gallery at 100 Water Street in Hallowell. On display will be some of Bruce’s beautiful Mexico photographs. If you are in the area this Thursday, Friday or Saturday, June 2, 3 or 4, please stop by the Harlow Gallery briefly between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. to view the photographs and sign Bruce Bierce’s guest book, leaving your love, appreciation and good wishes for him to read later at home. Judy and I hope that many of Bruce’s church friends and acquaintances will sign that guest book. Denis and I will be stopping in there on Friday.

You may recall that for 10 years Bruce and his wife, Judy McCown, were fundraising chairs for our church who planned a fundraising activity each month. During that time they led the Cookbook Committee that published “The Fellowship of Food” which he and Judy illustrated. Bruce has made colorfully inviting posters for many church events, including the UCCOO and choir concerts, the magic shows, yard sales and other fundraisers. Although he is now too disabled to attend church, Bruce and Judy, who is his constant companion, would love to hear from church friends.

Sincerely,  
Hannah Faulkner

## 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/>

<p><b><u>Monday</u></b> Each week</p> <p><b><u>6:30 – 8:00</u></b> <b><u>p.m.</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p>You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.</p> <p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at email <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>. FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a></p>	
<p><b><u>Wednesdays</u></b> Each Week</p> <p><b><u>5:00 – 6:00</u></b> <b><u>p.m.</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Gentle YOGA</u></b></p> <p>Hosted by Debbie Mattson</p> <p>Please join us a few minutes before 5:00 to settle in so we can begin our class right at 5:00 p.m. Click the link below to join. <a href="https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGbz3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGbz3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09</a> Password <b>174192</b> - FMI: <a href="mailto:DebbieMattson@hotmail.com">DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</a></p>	
<p><b><u>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b><u>Wednesday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>10:30 a.m. -</u></b> <b><u>Noon</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Seasoned Souls</u></b></p> <p>Seasoned Souls is a group of older church members that meet as a study/support group to talk openly about topics related to the aging process. Seasoned Souls is open to any church member over 65 years of age. We will meet in the UCC Zoom Room.</p> <p>FMI: please contact Diane (<a href="mailto:dmoongrove@gmail.com">dmoongrove@gmail.com</a> or 446-6162) or Stefanie (<a href="mailto:stefbarley@gmail.com">stefbarley@gmail.com</a> or 629-8890)</p>	
<p><b><u>Thursdays</u></b> Each Week</p> <p><b><u>8:00 – 9:30</u></b> <b><u>a.m.</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p>You may join us at 7:45 a.m. to settle in. Meet from 8-9:30</p> <p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>. FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a></p>	
<p><b><u>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b><u>Thursday</u></b> By Zoom</p> <p><b><u>9:00 – 10:30</u></b> <b><u>a.m.</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Writing to Wake the Soul</u></b></p> <p>This is an open group that gathers and writes together to explore spiritual themes. The writing is used as a conveyance to connect more deeply with ourselves and each other. We are not writing to develop skill.</p> <p>Come and try it out; there is no obligation to come each time we gather. We meet in the UCC Zoom Room.</p>	

<b>- More Connections by Day of the Week -</b>	
<p><b><u>1<sup>st</sup></u></b>  <b><u>Thursday</u></b>    <b><u>Noon-1:30</u></b>  <b><u>p.m.</u></b>    <b><u>Next Meeting</u></b>  <b><u>will be in Oct.</u></b>  <b><u>2022</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Read, Learn, Share</u></b></p> <p>Our final meeting of this year will be June 2<sup>nd</sup> in the UCC zoom room from Noon – 1:30 We will discuss <u>Beneficence, A Family, A Farm, An Unshakable Feeling</u> by Meredith Hall, 296 pgs. (Fiction)</p> <p>Anyone interested in this book is welcome to join us whether or not you have attended before. FMI about this or any meeting of the group, contact June Zellers at <a href="mailto:jzellers@roadrunner.com">jzellers@roadrunner.com</a> or Kathy Kellison at <a href="mailto:kell6787@gmail.com">kell6787@gmail.com</a> We would love to have you join us.</p>
<p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup> Friday</u></b>    <b><u>6:30 – 8:30</u></b>  <b><u>Sanctuary</u></b>    <b>Next Meeting</b>  <b>is June 24</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Free Style Drum Circle</u></b></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! <b><u>ALL are welcome.</u></b> 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 <a href="mailto:mtmoods@gmail.com">mtmoods@gmail.com</a> or 229-1118.</p>
<p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</u></b>    <b><u>1-2:30 p.m.</u></b>  <b><u>In-person w/</u></b>  <b><u>Zoom backup</u></b>    <b>Next Meeting</b>  <b>is June 26</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Goddess / Earth Circles</u></b></p> <p>Goddess/Earth Circles, June 26, 1-2:30pm <b>In-Church Meeting Room / Zoom Backup</b> Summer Connections, and continuing with Wicca: Magic, Ethics and Morality  Leader for Wicca series is Mary Shifman (213-9760, <a href="mailto:shifmanmary@gmail.com">shifmanmary@gmail.com</a>).  Resource: A Beginners Guide to the Wiccan Religion:  <a href="https://wiccaliving.com/what-is-wicca">https://wiccaliving.com/what-is-wicca</a></p> <p>Goddess/Earth Circles focuses on Goddess, women’s lives and earth-based spirituality. All ages and genders welcome. Contact: Helen Zidowecki (582-5308, <a href="mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com">hzmre@hzmre.com</a>) and see UCC website.</p>

Board of Trustees

Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta  
Board Meeting A G E N D A

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/8238070673>, then enter passcode: 6971

Join by phone: dial 1 646 558 8656, at first prompt (meeting id: 823 807 0673#)

Chalice Lighting

Words to Inspire: Catherine

Check in

**REPORTS**

1. Clerk's Report: Karen / **VOTE**
2. Treasurer's Report: Martha
3. Finance Committee's Report: Harry
4. COVID-19 Task Force's Report: Terry and Harry
5. President's Report: Kathy
  - a. Restorative Justice Sessions
  - b. Interim Search Update
6. Minister's Report: Chloë

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Final review of the FY2022/2023 Budget / **VOTE**
- Discussion of Annual Meeting on June 5<sup>th</sup>
  - Update on Board and Committee selections: Kathy
  - Choosing a Moderator: all
  - Honoring Special groups: Who and How: all

**ADJOURN**

Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider, please contact Kathy Ann Shaw at [kathyanshaw@roadrunner.com](mailto:kathyanshaw@roadrunner.com).

Next Board meeting: June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

--- BOARD HIGHLIGHTS ---

At the May 12 meeting the Board:

- Received the Treasurer's update on the current finances for this church year
- Discussed the status of the Stewardship Campaign and made a follow-up plan
- Explored continuing to rent out an office space in Judd House and deferred the decision
- Discussed options if the Kennebec County Covid-19 designation goes red

Press [Ctrl-Home] to return to Pg. 1

- Heard updates from the Leadership Development Team
- Received the Minister's Report
- Agreed to ask Nancy Fritz to moderate the Annual Meeting
- Accepted the fy 22-23 budget as presented by the Finance Committee
- Developed a plan to inform the congregation about aspects of the new budget before the Annual Meeting

Complete minutes of the 5/12 Board meeting is available from the UUCC website ([www.augustauu.org](http://www.augustauu.org)) at the following link

<https://www.augustauu.org/minister-staff-and-church-life/church-governance/board-of-trustees>

## COVID-19 Updates / News

### COVID-19 Advisory Group UPDATE

As of May 25<sup>th</sup>, Kennebec county remains “yellow” per the Federal CDC color coding system.

The good news is that both hospitalizations and ICU admissions for COVID patients are gradually declining across the state. The worrisome news is that the Augusta wastewater COVID concentrations are nearly 6 times higher than the national average, meaning that there is still plenty of COVID going around in our area.

### Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don On COVID-19      Maine Is First Again (In A Good Way!)

“Maine once again lives up to our ‘Dirigo’ motto,” Dr Nirav Shah, director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, tweeted last Friday, noting that the state leads the nation in second booster shots with a rate of 30.5 percent of those eligible. Maine is the first state to see at least 30 percent of its eligible population receive a second COVID-19 booster shot, according to Shah. Adults 50 years and older, and people who are immunocompromised, may receive a second booster, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Until today, Wednesday, COVID hospitalization numbers were moving in the right direction as well. Today that number rose by 19 over this past weekend when the Maine CDC reported 162 people were hospitalized with the coronavirus. There has been improvement over the previous weeks when over 200 or more people were in hospitals statewide with the virus.

It is clear that being in large groups of people still carries risk. Peter Hotez, dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, said of those who are in indoor settings with large numbers of people without masks, “there is a good likelihood you will suffer a breakthrough infection,” The Washington Post reported on Sunday.

In Maine, with most counties now categorized by the U.S. CDC as being at medium or high risk of coronavirus transmission, “if you’re in a group of 25 people, it is likely that one of them is positive for COVID,” said Dr. Dora Anne Mills, the chief health improvement officer for MaineHealth and former head of the Maine CDC. “If you’re fully boosted, relatively healthy and not elderly, even if you contract COVID, the chances are it will be mild, though it’s hard to know what your chances are of contracting long haul COVID,” Mills said Sunday in an email.

If someone wants to go to a movie or an indoor concert, Mills recommends being fully boosted, wearing a high-quality mask and sitting where the ventilation is better. She also recommends having a plan for how to access treatment if infected. The risk for severe COVID-19 illness goes up steadily from age 40 and over, and much more precipitously from age 65 and up, she said. Personally, Mills said she would go to the movies with conditions. “I feel fine to go to the movies, but while the COVID incidence is still high, I’m choosing show times that are less crowded, and I’m wearing a high-quality mask, sitting away from others, and of course making sure I’m up (on) my vaccinations,” Mills said.

Comments, questions or suggestions can be sent to [donnaber1364@gmail.com](mailto:donnaber1364@gmail.com)

## **General Information**

### **Worship Services are now being held IN-PERSON**

### **Events may still be held virtually in the**

### **UCC ZOOM ROOM**

#### **Other ways to UCC 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.**

UCC 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.

### **Ad-hoc Covid-19 Advisory Group**

This group has generously volunteered to be available to support members with personal safety, health or travel questions, concerns, or anxieties. Feel free to reach out to one of them directly.

Betty Cairn, RN	<a href="mailto:StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com">StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com</a>	207-215-6394
Terry Lee Cairn, ND, MSOM, Lac.	<a href="mailto:tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com">tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com</a>	207-557-2557
Harry Grimmnitz, MD	<a href="mailto:hgrimmnitz@gmail.com">hgrimmnitz@gmail.com</a>	207-685-9270
Don Naber, Ed.D	<a href="mailto:donnaber1364@gmail.com">donnaber1364@gmail.com</a>	207-887-1104
Cathie Nielsen, MD	<a href="mailto:cathieenielsen@gmail.com">cathieenielsen@gmail.com</a>	207-441-0248
Marty Soule, PA-C	<a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>	207-685-9270

## UUCU 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)	<a href="mailto:Mjpell14@roadrunner.com">Mjpell14@roadrunner.com</a>
Helen Zidowecki	207-582-5308 (h)	<a href="mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com">hzmre@hzmre.com</a>
Tracy McNaughton	207-623-3110 (h)	<a href="mailto:tracy.mcnaughton@yahoo.com">tracy.mcnaughton@yahoo.com</a>
Peggy Lamb	207 622-5174 (h)	<a href="mailto:plambflowers@outlook.com">plambflowers@outlook.com</a>

**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 Angie Blevins, 592-5655 or Peggy Lamb 622-5174.

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## UUCU 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 Michael Conley at 207-248-7948 or at [es-therpearl67@gmail.com](mailto:es-therpearl67@gmail.com).

SGM Leadership Meeting will be Sunday, June 5, 8:30-9:30am

by UUCU Zoom. All SGM participants are welcome.

## UUCU Office Hours – NEXT WEEK

### UUCU Office Hours

Tues, Wed, Thurs and Friday  
8:00 am to 1:00 pm. <plus 7 flex hrs >

**Church Administrator:** Lynn M. Smith,  
[admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org) or 622-3232

**Interim Minister,** Chloë Briedé

Email: [chloeuucc@gmail.com](mailto:chloeuucc@gmail.com)

Office: (207) 623-3663

For pastoral emergencies please call her cell phone (757) 234-1303. She will return your call as soon as possible.

### Minister Briede's office hours:

Monday	No office hours - Sabbath
Tuesday	Noon – 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Noon – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday	Noon – 4:00 p.m.
Friday	No office hours – Writing day
<Other hours available by appointment>	

### Staff Contact information:

Church Administrator, Lynn M. Smith, [admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org), Phone 622-3232

Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation, Monique McAuliffe, [LifespanFF@augustauu.org](mailto:LifespanFF@augustauu.org)

Music Director, Bridget Convey, [musicdirector@augustauu.org](mailto:musicdirector@augustauu.org)