



The Flaming Chalice

The newsletter of The Unitarian Universalist Community Church
69 Winthrop Street ~ PO Box 8 ~ Augusta, ME 04332-0008

April 2018

Sunday Worship Services at 9:15 & 11:00

Unitarian Universalist Identity

We covenant to affirm and promote the interdependent web of which we are a part.

April 1st

Easter Sunday

Rev. Carie Johnsen

The choir and orchestra will fill the sanctuary with extraordinary music to deepen and enrich our Easter service.

Easter Brunch begins at 10:00 (Fellowship Hall)

Supporting our UUC PeaceJam youth is easy, fun and delicious. Peace Jam is an international, secular organization which provides opportunity for youth and young adults through justice projects. The culmination at the end of the school year is the honor of attending a conference at which they learn from and meet a Noble Peace Prize laureate. The suggested donation for brunch is \$5 per person or \$10 per family.

Easter Egg Hunt begins at 10:30 (Drew House)

Children up to age 10 are welcome to participate. Parents – please accompany your children to this event.

April 8th

When Agility is Hard to Find

Rev. Carie Johnsen

From birth to death a journey of growing and unfolding, change and adaptation, loss and life call us to find agility when agility is hard to find. Join us for our biannual honoring of our elders. UUC youth, Jasmine will offer special music.

April 15th

Mixing Religion and Politics: The Passion of Martin Luther King

Doug Rooks

Martin Luther King, perhaps the greatest American religious leader of the 20th century, is universally celebrated for his work leading to the climactic marches in Selma, Alabama, and the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. His final years, however, were marked by controversy and dissension within the civil rights movement as he delved more deeply into politics, including Vietnam and his quest for economic justice. What lesson does King's life, and death, hold for us in our present moment? Annie Nessen Voorhees will offer special music.

April 22nd

Earth Day

Rev. Carie Johnsen

I can't think of a better way to celebrate the seventh principle of *interdependence* than with the celebration of Earth Day. Honoring mother earth is a time for appreciating the miracles of nature and the sheer awesomeness of life begetting life. The choir will join this service with "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring."

April 29th

Is That a Fundamentalist in my Mirror?

Rev. Nancee Campbell

Have you ever had words come out of your mouth that shocked you? Within the tension of today's political and economic diversity, we often find ourselves with emotions we criticize in others. Join us for a Sunday of reconciliation in song, silence and word as we celebrate our 'humanness' in the good company of each other.

Religious Exploration Classrooms 9:15 a.m. Drew House

April 1st

Lisa Gottlieb will share her passion for baking as our children prepare the bread for communion in the sanctuary.

April 8th

Marty Soule will engage the children in the spiritual practice of meditation.

April 15th

Martha and Don Naber will engage the children in the spiritual practice of gardening.

April 22nd

Melanie Lanctot will explore Nature Up Close and Personal with the children.

April 29th

Local birdwatchers Glenn Hodgkins and Cheryl Ring will share their passion.

With the exception of Easter Sunday **Grade 8-9 OWL Class** will meet every Sunday from 9:15 – 12:30 in the Ministers Study.

Faith Journey...

*Ministry is everything we do together.
And everything we do together is shared ministry.*

This month we move to the seventh principle of Unitarian Universalism. *We covenant to affirm and promote the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.* This principle reminds us we are part of creation not the center of creation; part of the universe not the center of the universe. This principle reminds us we are part of something greater than ourselves, something beyond ourselves. This principle is an expansive call to be in covenantal relationship. As such we are called into celebration (affirm) and stewardship (promote) with all that is, was, and will be.

The seventh principle offers our community a time to reflect on the ways in which our collective passions and commitments shape and serve our shared ministry.

As an ordained minister, I have answered the call to take up the profession of ministry. I have been called to serve the elusive holy. While I serve as your settled minister, I do not serve alone. I serve with all of you. **Together we hold the grace of Love's ministry.**

In Unitarian Universalism we believe that each of us has gift(s) to share, a song we sing, a ministry to bequeath. In our community we have music ministry, children and youth ministry, building and grounds ministry, elder ministry, finance ministry, office ministry, etc. Each of us brings a ministry and shares a ministry. Individually and collectively we grow together in ministry. Together, everything we do—individual and collectively—is our shared ministry. **Together we hold the grace of Love's ministry.**

We believe no single person holds the future of our beloved community. We believe the future of our faith is held together by the holy in each of us, reaching out to serve the holy in all of us. We covenant with each other to serve Love. **Together we hold the grace of Love's ministry.**

We are here to worship together...

To sing and to pray,

To be still and to be alert,

To encounter the exquisite treasures of being present in
this moment where hope and vision speak most clearly.

We are here, all of us, to grasp a glimmer of the calling
that is ours alone in this world. To hear the whispered
words that are spoken only for us, that give us all the
clues we need to answer the call we were created for.

The messengers of our common calls come always in disguise.

Spoken to us by chance, by the soul, by the wind,
by times of trouble, by our joy. They are rarely silent.

We can't escape them. They wait, always patient, for us.
Even now.

~ "In The Place We Meet" David S. Blanchard

This month the committee on ministry will be offering three focus groups to assess the strengths, challenges, opportunities, and vulnerabilities of our shared ministry. You will find more information in the committee's newsletter article. I hope you will take the time to attend a session and share your experiences and wisdom. As part of the assessment process Rev. Carie will provide a "state of shared ministry" report. The shared ministry assessments along with information gathered from the 2017 religious exploration retreat and the 2018 leadership retreat will offer a comprehensive picture of where we are. Together we will discern where the *grace of Love* is calling us to serve.

In faith, Rev. Carie Johnsen

UUCC Board President's Musings

Can it really be April already? Has the snow stopped falling? What signs of spring can we see? I am anxious to see the bulbs peeking up next to the house foundation. The dogs like staying outside playing for longer periods of time now. Seeds have been ordered for the summer garden. How about you? Moving has given me many tasks, one has been sorting books, sometimes finding some long forgotten gems. A few I want to lift up today.

I found a small book on the shelf with the following quote:

"Sing. Enjoy yourself. Some can. We can't all, and some of us don't.
that's all there is to it."(Eeyore)

What a back and forth quote from A.A. Milne's character, Eeyore! Do you feel that way sometimes? How do you get to singing if you are not there currently? How can you enjoy yourself again? How do you care for yourself when you can't sing? UUCC is one place that this transformation may happen for you. Tears may come while you are singing. They may come at a particular reading, quiet time, or another element in the service on Sunday. As I said one Sunday to a teary fellow worshipper, "That's why we have tissue boxes in the pews." UUCC provides a safe place to be who you are. The community gathered will hold you in thoughts, prayers, and/or actions if that is what you need.

On March 18 the service elements challenged us to examine our views and attitudes and actions toward particularly those persons of color or other differences. We have work to do to move ourselves and UUCC forward to rethink our past actions and choose new ways of being in relationship with others. Currently there is a second round of the book study Waking Up White by Debby Irving. Find someone who has read this and borrow their copy (I have one). It is a powerful read, and thought provoking book. Do you have suggestions or experiences which might be useful for UUCC to consider to help us grow stronger in our relationships with all peoples? The minister, the Committee on Ministry or a board member would be a place to start sharing your ideas.

Another book I found that had been my father's is Being Peace by Thich Nhat Hanh. This book includes lectures Thich Nhat Hanh gave during a tour in the U.S. during the fall of 1985. I quote from the first lecture in this book.

"Life is filled with suffering, but it is also filled with many wonders, like the blue sky, the sunshine, the eyes of a baby. To suffer is not enough. We must also be in touch with the wonders of life. They are within us and all around us, everywhere, any time. If we are peaceful, if we are happy, we can smile and blossom like a flower, and everyone in our family, our entire society will benefit from our peace."

UUCC has been the home for many years of the Peaceful Heart Sangha which practices on Monday evenings in the sanctuary. Maybe this is a group you would like to join, to practice with others. It feels to me that growing more peaceful as individuals will help us all.....

Thank you for sharing some of my book rediscoveries. I hope you find some to inspire, support, comfort, and/or challenge you as well.

Have a great month.

Sincerely,

Martha Naber, President UUCC

UUCC Shared Ministry Evaluation

The Committee on Ministry is preparing to hold 3 gatherings to help evaluate Shared Ministry at UUCC. We hope you will be able to join us for one of the sessions.

"What is Shared Ministry?" you say...

The reading on page 5, "Ministry is All That We Do", can help us understand...

Here are some other ways of looking at it.

Shared Ministry is:

- "...the understanding that the minister and congregation function together as a ministry team."
- "...service done as an outward expression of faith or values."
 - "... any act that does one or more of the following: contributes to the spiritual wholeness of the person giving or receiving service
 - advances the mission of the congregation
 - taps into the deeper ministerial gifts of a person
 - serves to deepen relationships between congregational members or between congregation and community
 - deepens an individual or community in their faith or values
 - keeps the physical entity of the congregation running in good repair
 - keeps the health of the congregational system in good repair"

from Who's in Charge Here?

Proposed dates for 3 focus groups:

All UUCC members and friends are invited to join us for one of these gatherings – whatever fits your calendar.

Thursday, April 5, 6 – 7:30: in Fellowship Hall. **Small Group Ministry Groups and anyone else for whom this date works best.**

Sunday, April 8, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. **Elders, Youth, RE Families and anyone else for whom this date works best.** (We will begin our discussion over dessert as our special Intergenerational / Elder Lunch is wrapping up, between 12:30 – 1:00. Lunch will include RE families, children, & youth this Sunday.)

Sunday, April 22, 12 – 1:30 in the Drew House. **Leadership and Special Interests Groups** (eg Choir, Seasoned Souls, Goddess Group, etc.) **and anyone else for whom this date works best.**

Here are questions we will be exploring together:

- 1. What stands out for you about the ministry of our church?**
 - To what extent do members of the congregation provide leadership, energy, talent, support, and initiative?
 - To what extent does the minister provide leadership, energy, talent, support, and initiative?
- 2. What about UUCC's ministry is working really well?**
 - How do members of the congregation contribute to that?
 - How does the minister contribute to that?
- 3. What about UUCC's ministry could be improved? Are there gaps?**
 - What role should members of the congregation play in addressing the deficiencies?
 - What role should the minister play?
- 4. How is the UUCC doing in effectively bringing our ministry to the greater community?**
 - How are members of the congregation contributing to this?
 - How is the minister contributing to this?

Committee on Ministry: Jim Caldwell, Jeff Janell, Debbie Mattson, and Marty Soule

“Ministry Is All That We Do” by Gordon B McKeeman

Ministry is all that we do—Together

Ministry is that quality of being in community that affirms human dignity—
beckons forth hidden possibilities, invites us into deeper, more constant, reverent relationships,
and carries forward our heritage of hope and liberation.

Ministry is what we do together as we celebrate triumphs of our human spirit,
Miracles of birth and life,
Wonders of devotion and sacrifice.

Ministry is what we do together—with one another—
in terror and torment—in grief, in misery and pain,
enabling us in the presence of death
to say yes to life.

We who minister speak and live the best we know with full knowledge
that it is never quite enough...

And yet are reassured
by lostness found,
fragments reunited,
wounds healed,
and joy shared.

Ministry is what we all do—together.

The Supper Times

News of The 1st Saturday Community Supper March 2018 Jenny Mckendry

Monique McAuliffe, youth leader and the Peace Jam youth of UUCC prepared, cooked and served the March 3rd supper. They made fine lasagna, salad and baked goods which were enjoyed by a hungry group of guests. Cricket Gottlieb, Lucy Gottlieb, Phyllis Clark, Charlie Caldwell, Sodoma Kmen, Liam McAuliffe arranged, discussed, spread, prepped, mixed, baked, set, refilled, cleaned and served. Karen Neilsen, Ben Hodgkins and Eli Spahn who've volunteered at numerous suppers, were unable to attend.

Cheryl Clukey, Jenny Mckendry and Judy Colomy also volunteered.

Thank you to all the volunteers for their time, energy and spirit.

Peace Jam is an international, secular organization which provides opportunity for youth and young adults through justice projects with a culmination at the end of the school year, of the honor of attending a conference at which they learn from and meet a Noble Peace Prize laureate.

On April 7, the next supper will be served. We'll need volunteers and baked goods. Since that's the same day as Dan Sorenson's service, we would appreciate help from a couple of people who may not be attending Dan's service or other events, who would help set-up and prep. Thank you.

Addie's Attic, The Essentials Pantry and the Warming Center are presently located in the Outreach Center, formerly known as St. Mark's Church parish house are now known as Bridging the Gap. Sarah Miller leads the non-profit and which may move to a new location at the end of this month. More information to follow. Jenny (c) 480-0980

COMMUNICATIONS CORNER

There are several items to bring to your attention as we work toward “communication that is abundant, clear, compassionate, and inclusive”

The Personnel Manual was revised in December 2017 and is now available on the website (Church Life: Governance) following *How Our Church Works*). The comprehensive manual applies to full and part time employees and provides consistency in our policies.

The Board has approved new Rental Rates for space, effective January 2018. The new rates can be found on the website under Buildings and Rentals (Events Forms).

The publication of events and activities that consistently reaches the broadest constituency is *The Flaming Chalice*, the UUCC monthly newsletter. The newsletter is sent electronically and by mail to members, friends and visitors; is on the website; and is available in the vestibule. Because it comes out monthly, we urge you to plan well in advance of the events. The Communication Work Group describes the process for getting information on events in the Communications Cycle (on web site under Communications), briefly:

- Calendar: Get onto the calendar early to ensure space.
- Newsletter: third Monday for the following month. (Ex: April 16 for events through May)
- E-Blast: Wednesday in weeks before and of the event.
- Sunday Announcements in Order of Service: The week of the event.

The Communications Work Group meets monthly. Contact Lynn Smith, Office Administrator (admin@augustauu.org or 207-622-3232) if you have comments or matters to bring to our attention.

HISTORY COMMITTEE

We are looking at our History of consolidation of the All Souls and Winthrop Street churches in 1992, and what has occurred here at UUCC. We invite you to engage in a sense of history as a basis for moving forward. What has been our impact? What has been our visibility? What have we offered as a community of faith for our members and friends and for the larger community?

Committees and programs have been asked to consider their contributions to UUCC as we envision the future and celebrate our continuing UU presence in Augusta. Your contributions toward our history are welcome, in things you have to give, in your reflections, and your questions.

Please contact Helen Zidowecki (hzmre@hzmre.com, 582-5308) for more information, and to let us know items that you might have for the history collection. Items and communications can also be put in the History Committee mail slot in the Committee Room.

Goddess Earth Circles

Join us in the Goddess/Earth Circles monthly gatherings, 12:15-2pm, usually in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. We share light refreshments, share briefly, and have a topic.:

April 29 Hekate, a Greek Goddess, introduced by Helen Zidowecki. (This is rescheduled from February, due to weather.) Hekate is a powerful triple goddess of the Moon, Earth, and Underworld. Come and explore the wisdom or crossroads.

For more information about Goddess/Earth Circles, contact Helen Zidowecki, hzmre@hzmre.com or 582-5308.

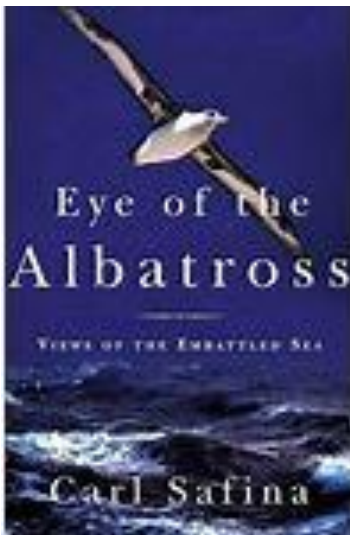
Bake Sale Saturday, March 31.

Come purchase a pie, cake or goodies for your Easter dinner at our bake sale Saturday, March 31, at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring your friends. If you haven't signed up to bake an item for the sale, the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall.

Annual Dinner and Auction Friday, April 6.

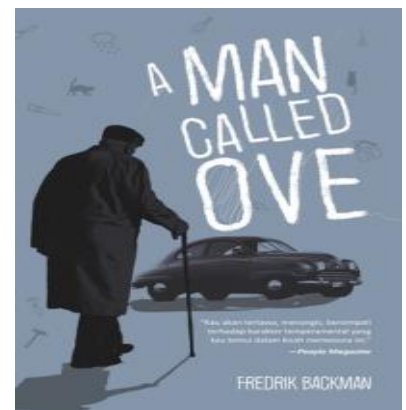
Closing auction solicitations soon. A list of all auction items is now on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Item viewing begins Friday, April 6th at 1 pm. Silent auction bidding begins at 4 p.m., followed by our Live Auction at 7 p.m. Come share a meal with us while you place your bids! Cash, check and credit cards accepted. No IOU's this year, please. Our menu includes beef or vegan/gluten-free shepherd's pie and kid-friendly mac and cheese. Live auction features Dick Crosman, auctioneer. More than 60 beautiful items and services to win! Please bring your friends and family... this is our highest-grossing annual fundraiser and we rely on a strong showing! Thank you to all our volunteer donors and event help. Contact Catherine Palmer at [207.458.7384](tel:207.458.7384).

BOOKS FOR SERIOUS READERS:



Our book for April 5th is The Eye of the Albatross: Vision Hope and Survival by Carl Safina. 'An awestruck yet intelligent study of the great sea bird and its environs', says Kirkus review. Feel free to join us at 1:00 p.m. in the Robbins Room for this or any discussion on the first Thursday of the month. FMI: Kathy Kellison 445-4415 kell6787@gmail.com or June Zellers at 582-5862 or jzellers@roadrunner.com

On May 3 we will explore A Man Called Ove. According to BookBrowse, "Fredrik Backman's novel about the angry old man next door is a thoughtful and charming exploration of the profound impact one life has on countless others."



Small Group Ministry

The HaCaSu TeRaJi Small Group has thrived in our church since 2010. Current members are Hannah, Carolyn, Sunshine, Terry, Rachel and Jill. We treasure our UU values, and we have fun together.

Meetings: Gathering twice a month, we base our meetings on selected Group Session plans and Soul Matter issues compiled by Helen Zidowecki, Rev. Carie and other UU leaders, as well as on our own creativity. We start each meeting with a chalice lighting and a check-in for each person. Then we delve into a spiritual topic. A few of the huge wealth of topics available that have engaged us are, Affirmation, Approval, Humor, Living Through Loss, Taking a Stand, Simplicity, Speciesism, and Wrestling with Angels. We have an infinite number of topics yet to explore. During these explorations we deepen our understandings of the world and of one another. As expressed in our group poster, here are some of the deep values we experience together: Anchoring, Comfort, Deep Spirituality, Trust, Exploration, Family, Growth, Hands Holding Us, Honesty, Integrity, Love, Respect, and WWJD (What Would Jill Do?). We have humorously given an acronym to the fact that our Jill embodies great wisdom and sheds light on many dilemmas, about which we consult her from time to time.

Social Events: Occasionally our Small Group gets together for important activities outside our meetings. We have eaten at Mexican and Indian restaurants, viewed timely movies such as “Cowspiracy,” “Particle Fever” and “Wonder Woman,” experienced an Egyptian landscapes show at the Maine State Museum, attended “Picnic” at the Gaslight Theatre featuring Lucy Poland, and “Spamalot” at the Waterville Opera House featuring Mel Morrison. We were honored to be the wedding party for Betty and Terry’s September 14, 2013 marriage and to accompany the newlyweds on a kayak trip up Hopkins Steam.

Service to the Church: The HaCaSu TeRaJi Small Group joyfully approaches our obligations to contribute talents and energies to UU Community Church. As a group we sponsor annual coffee hours, and we join with Judy McCown Bierce’s Small Group each year to present a spring Elder Lunch. On occasion we help out with memorial service refreshments.

Fundraising: In 2010 our Small Group started and continues to maintain the CLYNK bottle recycling program. During many of our meetings we fold and sticker CLYNK bags into which members of the congregation place returnable bottles to benefit the church. The Hannaford CLYNK program brings in hundreds of dollars to the church each year. In 2012 members of our Small Group, with the encouragement of Hannah Faulkner, started the Hannaford Cash Card Program, modeled after the successful program led by Doug Stevenson at the Wayne United Methodist Church. Church leaders Doug Rooks, Wick Johnson, and Mary Simpson supported the contributions and positive publicity that our Small Group gave to jumpstart this program. The UUCB Board formally established the Hannaford Cash Card Program at the UU Community Church of Augusta in August 2012. Now led by Catherine Palmer, it continues to bring in thousands of dollars to the church each year.

We have found that participation in our Small Group is fun, spiritually rewarding and a way to deepen our friendships within the UU Community Church. If you have not already joined a Small Group, we believe that a choice to do so can enhance your life.

Sincerely,

Hannah, Carolyn, Sunshine, Terry, Rachel and Jill (HaCaSu TeRaJi Small Group)

OUR NEXT GUEST ARTISTS CONCERT AT UUCC



JOIN US FOR A WONDERFUL AFTERNOON OF MUSIC ON SUNDAY, APRIL 8th at 4PM!

Joëlle Morris, mezzo-soprano
Timothy Burris, guitar

20th Century Music for Guitar and Voice

For centuries, the guitar has been an instrument intimately associated with the human voice. Though the 'folk song' is usually seen as a popular genre, it occasionally has been raised to the level of art song, and three such sets are on today's program. Mezzo-soprano Joëlle Morris and guitarist Timothy Burris will perform Manuel da Falla's "Siete Canciones populares españolas" (1914); Matyas Seiber's "Four French Folk Songs" (1959); and Benjamin Britten's "Folksong Arrangements" (1961). Guitar solos by Miguel Llobet and Daniel Fortea fill out the program.

Joëlle and Timothy's bios:

Originally from Evian, France, **Joëlle Morris** is a singer, actor, choral conductor and voice teacher. Recognized for her warm mezzo voice and her ability to sparkle on stage, she is admired for her versatility, from the concert stage to the operatic arena, in intimate jazz settings and French cabaret or simply sharing her gifts as voice teacher and coach.

An active recitalist, Joëlle has sung across the United States, France and Switzerland, most notably in such prestigious halls as La Grange-au- Lac in Evian-les-Bains, at Le Château de Ripaille in Thonon, the festival La Belle Époque at Evian and at l'Espace Maurice Novarina featuring her original production of "Poèmes en Musique" a presentation of French composers and their inspiration of poetry. Since relocating from France to Maine in 2011, Joelle regularly appears with the Bangor Symphony Orchestra, the Mozart Mentor Orchestra, and given recitals at the Franco Center, Waterville Opera House, Nordica Auditorium, Jewett Hall and the Early Music Festival in Portland.

In 2013, Joelle was featured on the "207" show on WCHS Channel 6 to highlight the release of her new Christmas album "C'est Noël!" with pianist Bridget Convey. Joëlle holds a Masters of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from the Lamont Conservatory in Denver Colorado and a Bachelor degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Colorado in Boulder. She is an Applied Music instructor of Voice at Colby College and can be reached via her website at joellemorris.com.

Timothy Burris has performed throughout Europe and the US, both as a soloist and an accompanist. He has appeared in concert with such esteemed artists as the mezzo Jennifer Lane and the keyboardist Robert Hill, as well as under the baton of Peter Schreier and René Clemencic, among others. In a review of *The Songs of Philip Rosseter, Part II*, *The Lute Society Magazine* said of his skills as an accompanist: "Burris ... plays with beautiful tone and is an absolutely first-class accompanist."

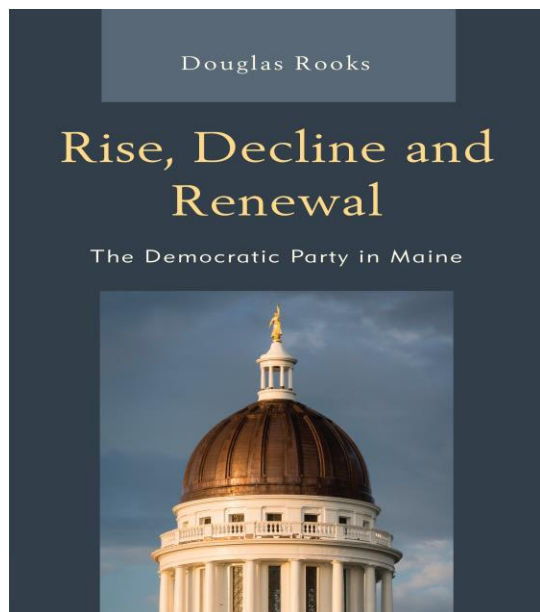
A student of Toyohiko Satoh at The Hague's Royal Conservatory, he graduated in 1988 with a performance diploma. From 1990-96 he was lute instructor at the Royal Flemish Conservatory in Antwerp. Since 2000, he has been on the faculty of the Portland Conservatory of Music. He is also a member of the applied music faculty at Colby College, where he conducted the Collegium during the 2015-16 academic year. Mr Burris is the founder and director of Portland, Maine's Early Music Festival sponsored by the Portland Conservatory of Music. In October of 2016, the festival celebrated its fifth year, and plans are already in the works for 2017. For a recap of last year's festival, click [here](#).

In addition to solo recordings, he has done CD projects with Jennifer Lane and Tamara Matthews with New York Baroque; Willeke te Brummelstroete with Koorprojekt Rotterdam; Timothy Neill Johnson; and Ensemble Pentacost, among others. He can be heard playing Bach's c minor Prelude in ***Shock Act***, the prize-winning short-film DVD by Seth Grossman. His foreign-language talents include fluency in German, French, and Dutch, and excellent facility in Spanish and Italian. His linguistic skills enhance his abilities as an accompanist, as well as adding to his effectiveness in coaching singers and instrumentalists in educational events such as master classes. He has an especial interest in French poetry, something he nurtured during more than two years of private study with French professors at the universities of Amsterdam and Leiden. His dissertation research was done primarily at Dresden's Sächsische Landesbibliothek, in the final stages with the generous support of a Fulbright fellowship (to the Technical University of Dresden).

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All concerts are one hour in length, followed by a light reception in the Fellowship Hall.
\$10 admission. Proceeds will be split between the UUCC and the guest artists.
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Social Activity

UUC member, author and journalist Doug Rooks will read from his new book, *Rise, Decline and Renewal: The Democratic Party in Maine* in the sanctuary after the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, April 22.



Rise, Decline and Renewal tells the remarkable story of the Maine Democratic Party – how it suddenly rose from irrelevance in 1954 with the election of Governor Ed Muskie, successfully challenged the ruling Republican Party over the next two decades, and initiated a creative period of wide-ranging reforms that produced a model government for a state long perceived as a cultural and economic backwater.

Prosperity was clouded by leadership failures, however, then succeeded by political and institutional decline. The vision that had once galvanized Democrats faded, elected officials clung to power, and legislators failed to provide good representation for the citizens who'd empowered them.

The final chapters describe how Maine's largest political party can again seize the initiative, energize a new generation of young people, and govern in the public interest once more.

While *Rise, Decline and Renewal* focuses primarily on the evolution of the Democratic Party, it makes a strong case that only a vigorous two-party system, based on competition rather than endless conflict, can restore Maine's state government to health.

Former GOP State Senator Peter Mills has this to say about the book:

"Through decades of writing, Doug Rooks has chronicled, with unparalleled insight and devotion, Maine's politics – a state that's produced from its 1.3 million people an outsized share of leaders with national and international significance. Now, Rooks tells where these leaders came from, and in the process tells Maine's story: its sudden metamorphosis into a two-party state; the successes of reform; recent periods of strife; and the author's prescriptions for future progress. Throughout the world, democracies are under stress. Rooks provides a case study for how to grapple with that stress, and meet the challenges citizens face in this continuing struggle."

Rooks is also the author of *Statesman: George Mitchell and the Art of the Possible* (Downeast Books, 2016.) Signed copies of both books will be available following questions and discussion. Light refreshment will be provided.



~ Peaceful Heart Sangha's Ten Year Continuation Day Celebration on March 5, 2018 ~
Here are some of the crew who were able to join us to celebrate.

What a wonderful celebration!

Thank you so much to all who joined us AND

All who were unable to physically join us!

It is ALL of us over the years who have made our sangha what we are!

We inter-are!

Dear Peaceful Heart Sangha, Dear Friends,

Thank you to all who have helped our sangha to grow and learn, we who have been both skillful and unskillful,

who have helped us learn to be more open to seeing and sharing our vulnerability around
the difficult/the painful/ the scary/the heartbreaking/ the embarrassing,
who have helped us to find helpful paths/little changes that can make such a big difference
in our lives,
who have helped us grow to be more happy and healthy.

We are so grateful to every person who has visited once and/or participated many times and/or supported others who have participated. Thank you.

***Unitarian Universalist Community Church
P.O. Box 8
Augusta, Maine 04332-0008***

Newsletter Submissions

Submission Deadline for May newsletter April 16th

Submissions received after this date may not be able to be published.

Please submit all articles as an attachment in a Word document using Arial font size 11. Don't forget to give your article a title and sign it. Send an email to newsletter@augustauu.org with the article as a word attachment! ***Photos of church activities welcome! *** You will receive a confirmation e-mail of receipt of your submission.

Minister: Reverend Carie Johnsen

Board President: Martha Naber

Sunday Morning RE Coordinator: Vacant

Youth Advisor: Monique McAuliffe

Choir Director: Bridget Convey

Contact information for Committee chairs and other leaders can be found in the UUCC directory or obtained by contacting the Office Administrator.

Office Administrator: Lynn Smith

Phone: (207)622-3232 or email: admin@augustauu.org

Office hours: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Tues, Wed & Thurs)

No office hours: Monday or Friday

Rev. Carie's Office Hours:

Monday	off
Tuesday	1:00 – 6:00
Wednesday	2:00 – 6:00
Thursday	Writing Day

Other times and days available by appointment.

Monday is Rev. Carie's Sabbath. She does not attend to emails, phone calls or meetings. For pastoral emergencies please call her cell phone (508) 221-5295. She will return your call as soon as possible.