



The NUUS

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth
121 Bucksport Rd., Ellsworth, ME 04605
(207) 667-4393 www.uuellsworth.org

Volume 44

No. 11

November 2012

A Month of Sundays

(All Sunday morning services at 10:30 a.m.)

Sunday, November 4

Modified Quaker Service

Marta Rieman

Marta Rieman, UUCE member since 1999 and currently serving in the capacity of Committee on Ministry member, co-choir director, and Leadership Development Committee chair, brings back to us again the modified Quaker service. This invites us to explore the tradition of worship through silence, and gives us the opportunity to speak our wisdom in the context of that silence if the divine within us inspires in the moment.

Sunday, November 11

Come, Build a Land...

Rev. Sara Huisjen

If you listen to the news, you'll certainly hear it, promises made by our leaders to "bring people to justice." What exactly is *justice*? What meaning does the word hold for you? What does seeking justice have to do with how we live our lives and attend to the public interests of accountability and safety?

Sunday, November 18

Oh, We Give Thanks...

Rev. Sara Huisjen

On this Sunday before the Thanksgiving Holiday, we will explore the power and value of cultivating a deep and abiding sense of gratitude in our lives. How do we cultivate gratitude in ourselves as an orientation of the heart and to what end?

Sunday, November 25

AIDS in the Family

Bob Dickens and Toby Betancourt

Ministry Matters by Rev. Sara Huisjen

“The life that I could still live, I should live, and the thought that I could still think, I should think.” - C.G. Jung, *The Red Book*.

A good friend recently gave me the gift of Mary Oliver’s newest anthology of poems, [A Thousand Mornings](#). In it, before any of her poems, Oliver inserts this quote from Jung for her readers to ponder, a reminder and invitation of sorts to pay attention to our lives and how we are living. Whoever we are, however young or old, able bodied or otherwise, ours is a call to the work and discipline of remembering we have a life to live, thoughts and ideas to share. For me, there’s a welcome measure of hope in this sentiment, an acknowledgement that in *any* moment, I can choose *how* I’ll live and the attitude I’ll have; that come what may, I can still strive to be of use and courageous in word and deed.

In our church community, we aspire to encourage and nurture each other into living with this greater sense of awareness about things that matter most. In our worship services and religious education classes, in our respective committee meetings and youth group gatherings, we know to call each other back to being more hopeful and brave, and to *acting* with integrity and enthusiasm about simply being alive.

In this election season, with so much on the line, knowing, too, how hard so many people among us are working to support candidates we believe in and to help realize worthy goals—a goal like the civil right of marriage for same sex-couples in our state—I’m grateful for the community we create together, and for the commitments we make to each other (and the strangers among us) to be there through all of it, triumph or disappointment, great joy or heart-break.

In closing, the first poem (and my favorite) from Mary Oliver’s new anthology, “I Go Down to the Shore.”

I go down to the shore in the morning
and depending on the hour the waves
are rolling in or moving out,
and I say, oh, I am miserable,
what shall—
what should I do? And the sea says
in its lovely voice:
Excuse me, I have work to do.

May we each find some measure of solace and reassurance in nature, as well as a sense of clarity of mind & heart when it comes seeing and acting on behalf of the good and necessary work and service we’re called to do.

Yours in ministry together,

Sara



A New SMALL GROUP MINISTRY Offering Downeast begins Nov. 2nd!

Touchstone Circle, a new, time-limited small group ministry program of the church will begin on **Friday, November 2nd from 6-8pm** at Joasha Dundas' home in Franklin. Rev. Sara Huisjen will facilitate these 2-hour gatherings where people explore topics of interest related to spiritual growth, listen to each other and reflect on their own lives. Participants are asked to commit to attending all 6 sessions on **11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30, 12/7 and 12/14**. Registration is required and there's still room for a few more people to join. To sign up or for more information, please contact Sara at sara@uullesworth.org or 667-4393.



2nd Annual INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING Worship Service
Sunday, November 18, 2012 at 3pm
at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Ellsworth

All are invited to attend this Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service sponsored by the Ellsworth Area Minister's Association. Come meet and worship with many of our faithful neighbors as we intentionally prepare our minds and hearts to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday. The offering collected during this service will benefit the Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry. All are invited to sing in a pick-up choir that will meet at 2pm that day. Rev. Sara looks forward to this service, and she hopes you will come!

Lifespan Religious Education

Greetings from the Carl Stehman Wing!

Fall has been a busy time; to date 19 children have been registered in the Religious Exploration Program. Classes are in full swing and the children are enjoying being together.

This year the Youth and Jr. Youth Group will be using the *What Do You Stand For* curriculum; areas of exploration through December will include courage, creativity, equality and friendship. They also will be performing an Italian folklore play on Christmas Eve at 5:00 pm.

The Senior Youth Group continues to meet monthly and very happy with being together. They also are very happy to be with their new friends from the Bangor and Belfast congregations and in November will be hosting a sleep over at UUCE. Sunrise on Cadillac Mountain and a hearty pancake breakfast are part of the plan.

Clearly, Religious Exploration at UUCE is growing and WE NEED YOUR HELP! Teachers are needed for the Youth and Jr. Youth Group, please contact your committed Religious Exploration Committee Members if you would like to help support ministry to our wee ones. Current committee members are: Carol Rosenski, Becka Gagne, Diana Cate and Dugald Kell.

PARENTS, we would love to have a conversation with you about Religious Exploration and invite ALL to join us in a conversation facilitated by Eileen Brennan on Sunday November 4th directly after potluck. So, if you are a PARENT of a child enrolled in RE, a PARENT of UU alumni, a GRANDPARENT, an ADULT who grew up in a UU congregation or just interested in RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION, please mark your calendar and join us....imagine the possibilities! Childcare will be provided.

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION CALENDAR:

November 3rd – 4rd: Sr. Youth Group Sleepover at UUCE with Bangor and Belfast UU teens.

November 4th: Religious Exploration Conversation facilitated by Eileen Brennan directly after Potluck. Childcare available and ALL are invited to attend.

November 11th: Sr. Youth Group Meet with Rev. Sara and Bob Dickens 4:00 – 6:00 pm. POTLUCK dinner.

WOYAYA - Anne

Adult Religious Education

As usual, fall brings a host of activities to participate in, and the Adult RE Committee has been busy with planning sessions for the coming year, and is serving as a conduit for the enriching programs of some committed and interesting people.

Meditation Group – Every Wednesday, 9 am in the Justice Room

All are welcome to attend this on-going meditation group. You don't need to register or commit to attend every session to participate. Drop-ins are most welcome! If you have any questions please contact Linda Laing (louielang@gmail.com).

The Adult RE Committee is very pleased indeed to continue sponsoring the Paul Weiss led sessions on Wednesday evenings; details for November are described below:

Awakening Our Human Potential

Has our human evolution prepared us to realize our full potential for awareness, love, and presence in our lives?

Growing out of 50 years of study and 30 years of work at The Whole Health Center, Paul Weiss offers an ongoing and comprehensive look at our human development on personal, interpersonal, and transpersonal levels. Integrating psychology, spirituality, neuroscience, mindfulness, and the great wisdom traditions of humankind, Paul offers us a practical, experiential, and integrative path to cultivating our true human maturity in a way that sees through the darkness of our times and the confusion of our minds.

Part One of each evening will begin at 6:00 with a 30-minute Qi Gong class – that ancient Chinese art of gentle movement that helps to harmonize body, mind, heart, breath, and energy. At 6:30 we will circle together for Part Two of the program. Part One is intended as a good warm-up for Part Two. You are welcome to attend either one or both sessions.

Every evening will include a presentation by Paul, meditation and experiential exercises, and group communication. This will be not only a class offering extensive information, but also a chance to come together and develop as a community of shared practice, awareness, compassion, communication and presence.

We hope each evening will offer an oasis of steady practice and friendship that you will be able to schedule into your lives. Each class will be open to anyone; the full value of the program will offer itself if there are those who are able to take the whole journey together. We hope you can join us.

There is no charge, but donations are gratefully accepted for the work of The Whole Health Center..

November's classes are:

November 7: Ego and Essence

November 14: Childhood and Emotional Integration

November 21: Thanksgiving Break. No class

November 28: Healing Separation

A program that has been on our agenda for awhile but has finally found a date is one that has been offered already in a number of UU churches in Maine (Belfast, Rockland and Edgecomb) with great success. Linda Silva of the Rockland congregation has described the program as based in the commitment to "Create an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, and socially just human presence on planet earth." We are

presenting this symposium in conjunction with the organization Hancock County Transition Towns. Please consider attending!

Saturday, November 10, 2012 : Awakening The Dreamer Symposium,– 9:30am to 3:00pm (with a 1 hour break for lunch)

The Awakening The Dreamer Symposium inspires and educates participants around the world to bring forth a sustainable, just, and fulfilling human presence on our planet Earth. Born out of a bold move by the Achuar peoples of Ecuador, an indigenous dream culture residing in the jungles of the Amazon, who were called to align themselves with the Western World to “awaken the dreamer(s)”, and change the [destructive] dream of the modern world. A call was sent out to work together on a global scale, and it was answered by Lynn and Bill Twist from the states, together this collaboration formed The Pachamama Alliance and in 2005 created the Awakening the Dreamer; Changing the Dream symposium to bring their message to the peoples of the world.

We invite you to connect with others in your community by attending this interactive, multimedia experience that moves participants out of despair and frustration and into an optimism grounded in action.

A team of volunteer facilitators from our growing global network will guide you through this multimedia live event. Symposium Facilitators are working professionals, retirees, college students, and community organizers. They come from a variety of moral traditions and hold a diversity of political beliefs. What they have in common is their concern for the wellbeing of humanity, planet Earth & all its inhabitants, and the belief that the Awakening the Dreamer Symposium empowers participants to take part in turning the tide for the future.

Suggested donation: \$10.00

November 11:

Congregational Response to Crises – led by Diana Cate. This session will be held following the service.

Imagine you saw these newspaper headlines:

Thursday, March 14, 2013

Ellsworth American front page

DISASTER STIKES ELLSWORTH CHURCH

Church hit by lightening and burns

The Unitarian Universalist Church on Bucksport Road was struck by lightening in a brief but intense thunderstorm Monday and suffered a significant fire loss. The Ellsworth Fire Chief reported that the Sanctuary portion of the building was a complete loss and the remainder of the structure suffered smoke and weather damage. Details on page 15.

It could happen. So could other forms of disaster, some I do not even want to consider. But what if.....

Emergencies happen. Sometimes they take the form of traumatic or critical incidents; sometimes full-blown disasters. UUCE needs to have a disaster response plan and team. The UUA does offer a Trauma Response Ministry to assist congregations facing significant trauma or loss. But after the first-responders leave, the fire department and police, we are the second-responders. Sometimes we are

even the first-responders. What kind of emergency preparedness should we have? Training? Contact lists? First-aid supplies? Financial records security?

Health Care Reform reading list:

The national elections are rapidly approaching, and the Adult RE committee has discussed perhaps offering a program on health care reform for those who might want to understand it better. The time is too short though to do this in a timely manner, so, instead of offering a program, we thought we might just include a short reading list of materials that may help those who are interested take a closer look at what is involved. This is not an exhaustive list, but rather a few selected articles whose content is very useful and whose presentation is both lucid and easily digested. The first item on the list is a New England Journal of Medicine article where both presidential candidates were invited to clarify their platforms on health care reform. Each provided statements, but no editorial overview is included, at least in this article. The article can be downloaded at the listed link, if you are interested in reading it.

Election 2012: Health Care Reform and the Presidential Candidates. N Engl J Med publ on Sept 26, 2012. <http://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJMp1211514>

Health Care Reform by Jonathan Gruber. Hill and Wang, 2011. This is presented in what is essentially a comic book format, to make the information clear and easily accessible. My library in Prospect Harbor has this in the children's section, but it isn't particularly a children's book.

Atul Gawande, Annals of Health Care: Big Med. "Can Medicine Learn from the Cheesecake Factory?" New Yorker, August 13, 2012.

The Adult RE Committee is continuing to work on a number of additional programs for later this year and next year – we will let you know more as we progress.

From the Board

BOT Meeting, October 11, 2012

Present: Diana Cate, President; David Wilcock, Vice President; Karen Volckhausen, Secretary; Don Martin, Treasurer; Trustees- Evelyn Foster, Tom Martin, Flo Reed; Rev. Sara Huisjen; RE Coordinator, Anne Ossanna; John Fink, By-Laws Committee

There was no congregational comment.

After the reading of the Board Covenant by Board members the following business was conducted:

For RE Coordinator's, Treasurer's and Minister's report see elsewhere in this issue of the NUUS.

RE Coordinator evaluation

With Anne Ossanna present, the Board reviewed the evaluation and Diana highlighted several points. It was a very positive evaluation and we are all impressed with Anne's work over the last year.

Proposed By-Laws changes

John Fink was present to represent the By-Laws Committee

Diana and David highlighted several points which require further clarification and thought including: term limits for officers, standing committees, executive sessions.

District "Listening Campaign"

NNED is sponsoring 6 sessions in different areas of the district for congregational leaders. The purpose is to allow people to get to know each other, deepen relationships, inspire vision, and inform strategy. Sara would like 5 UUCE leaders to attend a session at Bangor UU Church on September 28, 1-3.

Agenda for Congregational Meeting, October 21

Approval of the by-laws will be changed from the October congregational meeting to the January congregational meeting to allow time for further refinement

Treasurer's report

Minister check-in about youth service trip

Tabled items for next meeting were: New President/ Vice President Report, Rental Policy Report, Church Administrative Meeting, and Policy for the Giving Task Force Report

Next meeting: November 8 at 6 PM

The first 15 minutes are reserved for congregational comment. All are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Volckhausen

Secretary

Treasurer's Corner

Total income for September 2012 was \$15,244.07. This was \$6,812.98 more than the total expenses for the month of September, which were \$8,431.09.

Total income for the first quarter was \$43,031.91, 34.65% of budget, which is 9.65% more than the year-to-date percentage of 25%. Total expenses for the same period were \$24,357.45, 19.61% of budget, which is 5.39% less than the year-to-date 25%. The first quarter results are positive.

Pledge income for September was \$10,307. Total pledge income for the first quarter was \$31,969, or 31.1% of budget. Pledge income for September was high. There were several strong pledge payments made. We also received our disbursement from the Maine Community Foundation of \$3,550, which contributed to our total income for the first quarter. Plate income for September was \$745.83 for a total of \$1,867.78 or 24.9% of budget. Right on target. The plate split for the fourth Sunday in September was \$220, this was very good. Several individuals placed checks in the plate specifically directed to the effort. Fundraising for the first quarter was \$2,316.13, or 33.09% of budget. Strong results from the Auction are important if we are to reach our goal of \$7,000. Rental income for September was \$508, for a total of \$1,224, or 19.2% of budget, up slightly from last month. We have several strong rentals expected.

Expenses are continuing to be low at \$24,357.45, or 19.61% of budget, 5.39% below the year-to-date figure of 25%. We did pay our first fuel bill of the season, for \$428.56. Sewer and water expenses are the only line item running over budget, at 101.88%.

The success of the Goods & Services Auction, raising approximately \$9,800 with \$4,900 going to THAW and the other half going to the church's fundraising budget. The \$4,900 will raise our fundraising efforts over the goal of \$7,000 that we budgeted for this church year. Thank you for your support!

I am pleased that the first quarter has gone so well financially. This is the largest budget in the church history, a little over \$124,000 and it is important to us to prove to ourselves that we can handle this commitment as we move toward full-time professional ministry.

Don Martin

Annual Benefit for THAW and UUCE a HUGE Success!

Once again we have out-done ourselves! For 5 years in a row the proceeds from the auction/dinner have grown. This year we raised about \$9,800!! We have an AMAZING community here. So many of you donated great creative services and quality items; many of you brought food and beverages; some of you helped set up. And then lots and lots of you came on Saturday evening and we had a great time! And then, and then, what *REALLY* touched my heart, personally, was when I looked up after everyone had settled up at the cashier's table and people were scurrying about, without being asked to "tear-down" and put things back in order for Sunday morning. WOW!

To close, I can't say it better than Anne Ossanna, "Imagine how many of our neighbors will stay warm this winter because of all our efforts.....many, many thanks!"

-Peggy Strong

The News from the Peace and Social Action Committee (PASA)

The Ellsworth Farmers Market will be starting a winter market this year to be held in the Community Room at UUCE!! It will take place from 10 AM to 1 PM on the first and third Saturday of each month, November 2012 through April 2013. Produce, meat, poultry, dairy products, bakery goods, jewelry and knit goods are some of the products you will find at this market. In keeping with our emphasis on ethical eating and local foods, we encourage people to check it out!!

November's markets: Saturday, November 3 and Saturday, November 17.

David Wilcock, PASA member, will be going to Haiti for the World Bank from October 24 through Nov. 1st. He will be participating in a study called the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study, the objective of which is to help the Haitian economy by identifying business value chains (especially in the agricultural sector for David) where exports can be increased through targeted investments and policy reforms. The track record of the World Bank and partners (especially USAID) in Haiti has not been brilliant, so this should be an interesting assignment. He will be happy to talk to those interested in Haiti on his return.

PASA meets monthly on the third Sunday each month at 9 AM in the Board room. We invite any interested person to join us!!!





Loaves & Fishes

NEW ON THE BOARD FOR LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD PANTRY

It takes awhile to learn a new schedule and yearly pattern for events. I am delighted to have Cecily Judd's help during the whole year by her joining the Loaves and Fishes Board! We all know that Nina Turner is the VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR FOR OUR UUCE MONTH OF AUGUST. She has thanked all of you who helped so well this year. And we thank her!

We were pleased to welcome Cecily to the Board on September 10th. I am looking forward to the 12th of November meeting at 7 p.m., when she and I will find out how all the churches and organizations did in collecting side items for the Thanksgiving Day boxes.

THANKSGIVING SIDE ITEMS COLLECTED OCTOBER 14TH AS WELL AS SUNDAY THE 21ST AND THE 28TH WILL BE DELIVERED TO OUR FOOD PANTRY ON THE 29TH. There will be a count and plans for THANKSGIVING BOXES FOR FAMILIES OF VARIOUS SIZES - FROM ONE TO EIGHT OR MORE. THE 330 BOXES WILL BE PUT TOGETHER ON FRIDAY THE 16TH* OF NOVEMBER. THEN THEY WILL BE PASSED OUT ON SATURDAY THE 17TH!

Please add your items to the BIG BLUE BUCKET in our Community Room. Canned or bottled items: Cranberry sauce, pumpkin, green beans, peas, stuffing boxes, gravy, pickles, carrots, mince meat, kale...(Remember the turkey/chicken and potatoes will be provided by IGA Trenton and the Rotary.)

*Want to help on the 16th of November? Ask Cecily, Nina or Sue!

Building and Maintenance Highlights

Thank you David Dyer for milling the pieces necessary to repair our sign.

Sunrise Glass replaced the two panes of glass in the back window of the sanctuary. The seals had broken on these windows.

Jay Fowler and Son graded the parking lot and eliminated the berrns around the perimeter of the parking lot that were created by the snow plow. This should provide better drainage from the surface of the parking lot and hopefully decrease the development of pot holes.

If you'd like to be involved in the maintenance of the building and grounds, please contact me.

Don Martin, coordinator

Personnel

Contact Information

Minister Rev. Sara Hayman Huisjen: 610-2872 (cell) sara@uuellsworth.org	Religious Education Coordinator Anne Ossanna: 565-2057 anne@uuellsworth.org
Church Office (M, W, F, 1:00-5:00 P.M.) Caitlin Tunney: 667-4393 office@uuellsworth.org	Music Director Wayne Smith: 667-9482 wayne@mrlanguage.com
President of the Board Diana Cate: 664-3010 president@uuellsworth.org	Newsletter Editor Lance Funderburk: 276-3301 lfunderburk@roadrunner.com [Submit articles by the 15 th of each month]

Board of Trustees

President: Diana Cate, djcate35@gmail.com	Vice President: Cynthia Perkins
Treasurer: Don Martin	Secretary: Karen Volckhausen
Trustee: Eileen Brennan, to 2015	Trustee: Tom Martin to 2015
Trustee: Flo Reed, to 2014	Trustee: David Wilcock, to 2013
Trustee: Matt Slater, to 2014	Trustee: Evelyn Foster, to 2013

Committee and Task Force Chairs

Adult Education: Stephen Berger & Janice Ronco	Loaves and Fishes: Sue Clark, Nina Turner
Aesthetics: Linda Laing	Leadership Development: Marta Rieman
Art in the Sanctuary: Jude Lamb	Library: Paul Reid
Auction: Peggy Strong	Lobster Bake: Bettie Massie
Budget and Finance: Don Martin	Membership: Nancy Avila/Mardi Thompson-George
Building Maintenance: Don Martin	Committee on Ministry: Ruth Eveland
By laws: John Fink	Music: Haydee Forman
Coffee Hour: Bill Clark	Outdoor Chapel: Matt Slater
Caring Committee: Suzanne Forest	Peace and Social Action: Karen Volckhausen
Choir: Marta Rieman & Haydee Foreman	Potluck: Carol Mathiesen
Elections: Ruth Eveland	Sunday order of service: Send to: office@uuellsworth.org
Flowers: Nancy Avila	Small Group Ministry: Rev. Sara Huisjen
Green Sanctuary: Kay Wilkins	Ushers: Jon Thomas
History Committee: Wayne Smith	Web Pages: Caitlin Tunney at church office
Kitchen: Matt Slater	Worship: Cynthia Perkins
Landscaping: Karen Wigglesworth & Vicki Fox	

November 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	3:00 Violin lessons 7:00 St. Augustine	10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Acadia Choral	9:00 Meditation 10:00 Downeast Sr. Coll. 6:00 Adult RE: Paul Weiss 6:30 Coyote Group	1 9:30 Exec. Comm 12:00 Al-Anon	2 6:00 AA	3 10:00 Ellsworth Farmers' Market 4:00 Youth Sleepover
4 9:00 RE committee 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 RE conversation 4:00 Sr. Youth meeting	5 10:00 Midwives of Maine 2:00 Mainers/Marriage 3:00 Violin lessons 7:00 St. Augustine	6 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Acadia Choral	7 9:00 Meditation 6:00 Adult RE: Paul Weiss 6:30 Coyote Group	8 12:00 Al-Anon 12:00 Tidewater NVC 6:00 Board Meeting	9 6:00 AA	10 1:00 Adult RE: Awakening the Dreamer symposium
11 9:00 Adult RE comm. 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 a.m. Worship Service HUNGRY SUNDAY 11:50 Adult RE	12 3:00 Violin lessons 7:00 St. Augustine	13 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Acadia Choral	14 9:00 Meditation 6:00 Adult RE: Paul Weiss 6:30 Coyote Group	15 12:00 Al-Anon	16 6:00 AA	17 10:00 Ellsworth Farmers' Market
18 9-1 RE office hours 9:00 PASA 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	19 3:00 Violin lessons 7:00 St. Augustine	20 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Acadia Choral	21 9:00 Meditation 6:00 Adult RE: Paul Weiss 6:30 Coyote Group	22 12:00 Al-Anon 12:00 Tidewater NVC	23 6:00 AA	24
25 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	26 3:00 Violin lessons 7:00 St. Augustine	27 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon 5:30 Rest. Justice 6:00 Acadia Choral	28 9:00 Meditation 2:00 Bridging Sm. Grp. 6:00 Adult RE: Paul Weiss 6:30 Coyote Group	29 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Downeast Audubon 6:30 MS Support	30 6:00 AA	

To reserve space at the UUCE, Email: office@uuellsworth.org ; phone: 207-667-4393. Leave a message and someone from the church will contact you. Or you can reach us by mail – Calendar Person, UUCE, 121 Bucksport Rd. Ellsworth, ME 04605

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Vol. 44, No. 11

We covenant to affirm and promote:

**The inherent worth and dignity of every human being;
Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual
growth in our congregations;
A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process
within our congregation and in society at large;
The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice
for all;
Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which
we are a part.**

