



The NUUS

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth
121 Bucksport Rd., Ellsworth, ME 04605

(207) 667-4393

www.uuellsworth.org

Volume 45

No. 1

January 2013

A Month of Sundays

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

Sunday, January 6. *Great Luminaries of Compassion*

Rev. Charles Stephens

Recently we observed the December Holiday season colored by the tragic shooting at a primary school in Newtown, CT. As we start a new year I feel the need to look to some of the great practitioners of compassion who literally changed the history of the world. Where can you start to unleash the compassionate potential within you?

The Rev Charles Stephens Minister is Emeritus of the Unitarian Universalist Church at Washington Crossing Titusville, N.J.

This summer, the Rev. Stephens returned to Maine with his wife Alison Stephens (Our new UUCE Administrator). He served our Ellsworth congregation as well as the Castine UU congregation during the 1980s. Rev. Stephens has a strong interest in interfaith dialogue having studied with Matthew Fox at the Institute in Culture and Creation Spirituality and at the Shalem Institute for Spiritual Direction, serving as adjunct staff in their Spiritual Guidance Program

Stephens has volunteered over the years in many social justice areas, including the legalization of same-sex marriage, peace work, an interfaith compassionate listening program in the Middle East, mental health awareness, and Interfaith Community Organizing for greater equity.

Sunday, January 13. Hawke Henries, well known and spiritually oriented Native American musician. His last UUCE service was one of the best attended ever. Hawke Henries, who says, "Most often I try to let the group shape the direction of my presentation. As you have seen the questions and thoughts that people share usually move US in that manner. If appropriate I will invite folks to ask questions and share thoughts. This approach keeps the exchange from being confined to a specific topic..".

Sunday, January 20th MLK Sunday: *We are tied together...*

Rev. Sara Huisjen

On this Sunday, we will celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a great & courageous Civil Rights leader by imagining what it is that we're called to do in our continuing efforts to dedicate ourselves to what he called, "the long and bitter—but beautiful—struggle for a new world."

*****CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** immediately following the service in the sanctuary. ***

Sunday, January 27. *Hand in Hand with Mano en Mano*

Led by: Ian Yaffe, Executive Director; Robin Lovrien, Director of Adult Education; both from Mano en Mano, and Kay Wilkins, UUCE Worship Associate.

In 2012, PASA and Adult Education led a course “Immigration as a Moral Issue.” Those of us who participated were left with questions about how we could deepen our understanding and contribute to some local solutions. To that end we have begun a dialog with Mano en Mano <http://www.manomaine.org> serving the Latino community in Eastern Hancock and Washington counties. In today’s service, we will listen, and reach out to our neighbors who have as much to teach us as we have to give.

Please Note: This Sunday is our first quarterly plate split which will benefit **Mano en Mano**.

Ministry Matters by Rev. Sara Huisjen

*Days pass and the years vanish,
and we walk sightless among miracles...*

These two lines from a Jewish prayer I learned years ago have been on my mind lately. I find it’s true, we do live and breathe and have so much to be grateful for, and it’s so easy to forget that this is true. But, there are things that can wake us up to this more grateful perspective—tragedies like the recent school shooting in CT, or the illness or death of a loved one, or the joy of expecting a baby, or simply walking outside in the gorgeous woods where we live.

I am one of those people who make resolutions this time of year—I make them, and I break them eventually, but that doesn’t mean they are useless or a waste of time to think about. It’s always good to pause, and to look back over the year and name the things we want to do a little bit differently in the year to come. This January, three ‘rules to live by’ that I’ve come across recently will guide my continuing efforts to nurture more health & happiness in my life: *Be who you are. Do what you can. Love what you have.*

So often we are run around by the ideas and expectations and pressures we live with to be something more than we are—more successful, or better loved and appreciated. I’m reading a book now by Brene Brown, PhD., LMSW, a social worker and researcher out of the University of Houston, who speaks in some depth about this phenomenon. In her opinion, we are encouraged to always be striving for something more than we are, and in our striving, we easily lose sight of what’s here now, what she calls the ordinary satisfactions of a “good enough” life. *Be who you are*—give voice to what’s important to you, and decide with more intention how you want to spend your time.

Do what you can. We’re all better off when we remember to care about others and the earth as a whole. What *I* can do will be different from what *you* can do, and, our active participation in the world is needed. Write a letter to your congressman re: an issue or cause that you feel strongly about. Volunteer at a local food pantry or nursing home, or give a ride to a neighbor in need. If you’re a writer, write. If you’re an artist, create something beautiful to share.

And last but not least, *love what you have.* Enjoy the people in your life. Pay attention to them. Remember that nothing lasts forever, and dare to cultivate a sense of satisfaction and gratitude about what is yours to be, and do, and love.

I hope your holiday celebrations were full of the love of family and friends, and I wish you and yours much health and happiness in the year to come.

Grateful to be yours in ministry together,

Sara

Lifespan Religious Education

Winter Greetings from the Carl Stehman Wing.

December has been a busy time with rehearsals for our Christmas Eve Children's Service. Thank you to all the parents for your support and patience as your children memorized lines and created their costumes. A special thanks this month to Bill Clark, Carol Rossinski and Eileen Brennan for teaching RE Classes in December. Please remember to bring donations of homemade baked goodies for COOKIE MINISTRY to the RE Kitchen.

January Calendar:

January 6th: POTLUCK - Sr. Youth to arrive at 9:30 am to help with set-up and remain until 12:30 to help with clean up. Sr. Youth Group meeting with Rev. Sara and Bob Dickens from 4:00 - 6:00 pm. Pizza will be provided, please let Anne Ossanna know if you need transportation.

January 13th - Guatemala Service Trip Meeting at UUCE 4:30 - 7:00 pm

January 15th - \$25.00 monthly deposit for Guatemala trip due at UUC of Belfast.

Woyaya - Anne

Adult Religious Education

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 Evolution's Edge class series with Paul Weiss will continue, beginning on Wednesday, January 9. Details to follow after the holidays.

We are planning to have a discussion based on the book *The Dancing Healers: A doctor's journey of healing with Native Americans* by Carl Hammerschlag on a date to be decided in February. This is likely to be a brown bag lunch, on a week day. If you think you might join the discussion, this is an early heads up so you have plenty of time for reading.

From the Board

UUCE BOT Meeting

December 13, 2012

Present: Diana Cate, President; David Wilcock, Vice President; Karen Volckhausen, Secretary; Trustees- Eileen Brennan, Tom Martin, Evelyn Foster, Cynthia Perkins, Flo Reed; Rev. Sara Huisjen; RE Coordinator- Anne Ossanna; Church Administrator- Alison Stephens

Executive Committee Report

November 7 focused on the hiring process and agenda building for the November meeting. December 6 meeting focused on the agenda for the December meeting

Introduction of Alison Stephens

Board members introduced themselves and Alison expressed her pleasure in being the new church administrator.

Alison's office hours are: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 1-5

Email is office @uuellsworth.org

See elsewhere in the NUUS for the RE Coordinator's report, treasurer's report and minister's report.

The Board authorized Sara's time off for vacation and study from January 21 to February 2.

Board Vacancy report

There is currently a Board vacancy. According to the new bylaws which will be passed at the January congregational meeting, the Board can fill a vacancy until the annual meeting in May. A motion was made and passed to leave the seat vacant until it is filled by elections in May.

Charitable Giving Task Force

Flo Reed gave a report on a draft of the task force's work creating a cohesive plan for charitable giving for UUCE. The task force consisted of Karen, Sara, Flo, Anne Ossanna, and Peggy Strong. The first part of the draft consists of the why and how and the second part, the criteria for giving.

An in depth discussion, including how to engage the congregation in dialogue, ensued. It will be continued at the next Board meeting.

Bylaws

John Fink is not here to review the revisions so the discussion was tabled until the next meeting. Board members have the latest draft. Any questions should be addressed to Ruth and John.

Pre-planning for stewardship goals

David presented a plan for proceeding with the stewardship campaign. Having a clear picture and goals of income and expenses will make a stronger pledge drive possible.

Plate Splitting report

Plate splitting was piloted for 2 quarters. \$347 was raised for GLSEN and \$500 for the free clinic. As reported by Don, this did not hurt the plate and in fact increased it most times. Motion was made and passed to continue plate splitting the last Sunday of each month of each quarter as a regular practice for UUCE.

Housekeeping

Diana, who was originally going to resign her position in April, reported that she can stay on until May if the Board wants her to.

The Board was in agreement.

The next Board meeting is Thursday, January 10 at 6 PM in the Board room.
The first 15 minutes are reserved for congregational comment. All are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Volckhausen, Board Secretary

#

Treasurer's Corner

#

Total income for November 2012 was \$10,049.80. This was \$1,200.56 less than the total expenses for the month of November which were \$11,250.36. Total income through November is \$66,163.55, 53.27% of budget which is 11.61% more than the year-to-date percentage of 41.66%. Total expenses for the same period were \$45,197.55, 36.39% of budget, which is 5.27% less than the year-to-date figure of 41.66%. These results are positive.

Pledge income for November was \$8,516.00. Total pledges through November were \$47,492.00 or 46.2% of budget, which is 4.54% more than the year-to-date figure.

Plate income for November was \$588.80, \$81.30 more than last month. Total plate income through November is \$2964.08 or 39.52% of budget, 2.14% less than the year-to-date figure of 41.66%. The plate split for the last Sunday of the month was \$104.50 giving us a total of \$500.00 for the quarter, which was donated to the Ellsworth Free Medical Clinic. The director informed me that the donation was greatly appreciated and needed.

Total fundraising for the church budget is at \$7194.47 or 102.78% of budget. There was very little change from last month.

Rental income for the month was \$345.00 for a total through November of \$1,793.00, 29.88% of budget. Rentals are still running low but we will be receiving our largest rental payment in December.

Expenses for November were \$11,250.36. Total expenses through November were \$45,197.35, this is still on target.

The church should be very pleased that we have raised \$5,989.31 in support of community organizations since the beginning of this church year; July 1 2012.

You will be receiving your 2nd quarter pledge statement by January 15th. If there is anything we can do to assist you in preparing 2012 Income Taxes please contact me.

Don Martin, Treasurer

Update on the Hannaford Gift Card Sales

The Aesthetics committee reports that our Hannaford Gift Card Sales are going well and estimates are that through January we will have sold almost \$10K earning approximately \$500 toward our goal of \$1,800 to begin refurbishing the foyer area with new lighting, paint and tiles. The sale of the Hannaford Cards is ongoing each Sunday throughout the next year, allowing us to make major improvements in our building's functional attractiveness and needed maintenance areas. Please continue to support this win-win effort on behalf of our UU community.

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, Th, F, 1:00-5:00 P.M.) Alison Stephens: 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: David Wilcock
Treasurer: Don Martin	Secretary: Karen Volckhausen
Trustee: Eileen Brennan, to 2015	Trustee: Tom Martin to 2015
Trustee: Flo Reed, to 2014	Trustee: Cynthia Perkins
	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: position open
Elections: Ruth Eveland	Sunday order of service: Send to: office@uuellsworth.org
Flowers:	Small Group Ministry: Rev. Sara Huisjen
Green Sanctuary: Kay Wilkins	Ushers: Jon Thomas
History Committee: Wayne Smith	Web Pages: Peggy Strong
Kitchen: Position open	Worship: Cynthia Perkins
Landscaping: Karen Wigglesworth & Vicki Fox	

January 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	2 9:00 Meditation 6:30 Coyote Group	3 12:00 Al-Anon	4 6:00 AA	5 9:00 Farmers' Market
6 9:00 RE committee 9:00 PASA 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 Worship Service POTLUCK 4-6 Sr. Youth Group	7 3:00 Violin lessons 7:00 St. Augustine	8 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	9 9:00 Meditation 6:00-8:00 Adult RE - P. Weiss 6:30 Coyote Group	10 12:00 Al-Anon	11 6:00 AA	12 9-12 Leadership Training
13 9:00 Adult RE comm. 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 a.m. Worship Service HUNGRY SUNDAY	14 3:00 Violin lessons 7:00 St. Augustine	15 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	16 9:00 Meditation 6:00-8:00 Adult RE - P. Weiss 6:30 Coyote Group	17 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 UUCE Board Mtg.	18 6:00 AA	19 9:00 Farmers' Market
20 9-1 RE office hours 9:00 PASA 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Congregational Meeting (after service)	21 3:00 Violin lessons 7:00 St. Augustine	22 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	23 9:00 Meditation 6:00-8:00 Adult RE - P. Weiss 6:30 Coyote Group	24 12:00 Al-Anon	25 6:00 AA	26 11-5 Family Constellation Workshop
27 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	28 3:00 Violin lessons 7:00 St. Augustine	29 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	30 9:00 Meditation 6:00-8:00 Adult RE - P. Weiss 6:30 Coyote Group	31 12:00 Al-Anon 1:30 LDC 6:30 MS Support		

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

Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth
 121 Bucksport Road
 Ellsworth, ME 04605

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S Postage Paid
 Permit Number 93
 Ellsworth, ME 04605

The NUUS

January 2013

The NUUS

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth

January 2013

Vol. 45, No. 1

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.**

