



The NUUS

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

Volume 43

No. 7

July 2011

A Month of Sundays

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

July 3. Rev Amy DeBeck will give the sermon
100-mile potluck

July 10. *With Deference to Nature*

This is a sermon that explores how we can enjoy both the natural world and the realm of the church. It is inspired by an approach to spirituality called Religious Naturalism. This approach to religion emphasizes the importance of our subjective connection and our deep relationship with the natural world.

Charles Stephens has been the Minister at UUCWC since 1997. He began his UU ministry in 1981 here in Maine, serving the Unitarian Universalist Congregations in Eastport, Ellsworth and Castine. Ordained as a Lutheran minister in 1973, Stephens has been drawn to study interfaith spirituality. He has served as adjunct staff for the Spiritual Guidance Program, working with men and women from a variety of faith traditions to deepen participants' spirituality. Stephens also spent a semester studying with Matthew Fox at the Institute in Culture and Creation Spirituality, in Oakland, Calif., which teaches that wisdom springs from many faith traditions.

July 17. *Meet Yeshua: Jesus without his Last Name*
Most UU's, it seems, ignore Jesus all together, since we reject his divinity as the son of god. However, he ranks as one of the all-time great teachers of love

and goodness. This sermon looks at Jesus the person, sorting out the myths and eliminating the

christology that bothers most of us. I then look at who he was and what he might mean for us today.

John Shonle has been a UU (at least at heart) for over 60 years. He is currently a member of the Milford NH church. He has presented four services at two UU churches as a lay leader.

July 24. *Making a Difference: Reflections on Ways to Influence the World*

Rev. John Holt, recently retired as minister of Union Congregational Church in Hancock will share with us his thinking on how we can be making the world better. He will be drawing from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount where we are told that we are "the salt of the earth."

July 31. *The Fourth Principle*

This service will involve 3 members of the congregation speaking about their understanding and practice of that Principle in their lives. Each talk will last about 5 minutes with readings and hymns interspersed. The last 10 minutes of the service will be open to the congregation for response and reflection. If people wish, we may meet over coffee to continue any discussion which arises.

Anne Funderburk

Message from the President

CHURCH HOME

We have a minister. Her name is Rev. Sara Hayman Huisjen.

It is so good to type those words.

It's been a long year. Actually a little over a year ago, while many of us were still in shock, Evelyn Foster, after a long pause, said, emphatically, "This is OUR church." I knew what she was saying. It *is* our church, and at that point we, the members and friends of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth, set about with energy, dedication, and a mighty focus to make UUCE a really good church, a church home.

We have twenty new members within the past year, good active members. All of them have already begun to make contributions to the life of the church. We have strong leadership and more new leaders beginning to make their mark. We increased our pledges by almost a third. Our committees are self-starting creative forces.

We have babies. Lots and lots of babies. And children. And an on-fire RE Coordinator. And a minister who really loves us.

And a minister who really loves us.

Wow! Life is good. So what now? What do we do to build on this high? How do we maintain this energy and dedication? This is still *our* church. Having a loving minister is a wonderful plus. Hiring Rev. Sara is a continuation of our growth and a product of the changes we have made.

Ten years ago I had little use for any church. Religion was only a fascinating component of history. It was pleasant enough to go services with my partner. I liked the people at UUCE. Slowly, very slowly, I began to feel a part of something bigger, something like family. As I write this I feel

these words are overly dramatic, but I can't think of any other way to describe the process.

I have found real meaning in the expression "church family." As I begin to decompress from the past intense months of service, and as I begin to wind down my time of leadership, I don't want to lose that feeling. However I might.

I have learned that feelings come and go. What counts is commitment, to get through the dry periods, which will come. So now I pledge to take specific actions to sustain the deep friendships and family feeling I have found in UUCE, regardless of who the Red Sox are playing or how the fish are biting.

I once read a wonderful set of church rules on a minister's blog. If I may, let me recommend them to you, both new folks and old timers. I will try to follow this set of rules as a private covenant.

First – Attend worship on Sunday mornings. I know this sounds ridiculously obvious, but it needs to be said. Let's be honest about this. We are never going to find deep friendships or spiritual sustenance at church if we don't attend. If we plan to be part of UUCE, we need to make attendance at Sunday worship a high priority.

Second – Take the next step. We have events that take place at times other than Sunday Worship, like pot-luck on the first Sunday of the month, or the Lobster Bake in August, or the Auction in October. Some might think that these things less important than Sunday worship. But these gatherings are often the times when people really get to know each other and community gets built.

Third – Be outgoing, but don't rush things. Church relationships follow common rules of relationship. It may take some time to feel at home. We should take the initiative but not rush. Hurried church relationships are like hurried romances. They generally don't end well.

Membership Committee

Fourth – Find a place of service. If we approach our church with an attitude of discovering what the church can do for us or for our family, we won't get much out of it. Find a way to serve the community. Volunteer in some way. It can be as simple as picking up hymnals after services or helping with coffee hour. Service to the church is good for your soul, and it has the added benefit of being another signal to other members that you wish to be a part of the community.

Fifth – Submit yourself. Unitarian Universalism is centuries old and sprang out of even earlier faith traditions. We are a religious movement. We do not have a creed but are a covenanted people – we make promises to each other. We will be asked to pray or meditate. We will be led in songs with words reflecting UU theology. We will hear a lot about love, acceptance, and kindness. We will be asked to generously support our church financially. And we will be challenged to protest injustice.

This is a canon I can accept and live with. The first four “rules” are easy for me. Number five is tough. Skepticism dies hard. But I will try to remember and keep my personal covenant. UUCE is my church home.

Peace.

In ministry,
Diana J. Cate
President of the Board of Trustees

Note: Rules of church membership are adapted from Gordon Atkinson's blog, with permission. I posted a similar version of these rules almost a year ago.

Three new members have become members of our UUCE congregation.

We are very happy to welcome Vicki Fox, Valerie Kenney and Dan Wheatley. For a brief biography of Vicki Fox please refer to the June NNUS. For more details and a picture of the new members see the membership wall in the community room.

Valerie Kenney came to Maine on vacation from Ft. Meyers, Florida and decided to make her life here. In Florida she worked in television news as a reporter, writer, editor and director of the six and eleven o'clock news. Valerie loves animals and runs a thriving Pet Sitting business. She also writes free-lance articles and movie reviews for the Bangor Daily News and the Ellsworth American. She has owned and operated a vintage clothing shop. At present she does catering jobs-large and small and is President of the board of Directors of Everybody Eats where she is also lead cook every Monday. About UUCE, Valerie loves the people, the community and the fellowship. She says the spirit of joy she receives on Sunday morning carries over into her week and makes her smile.

Dan Wheatley has a varied and interesting background. He spent his childhood years in Connecticut where he loved exploring the forests and bogs around his rural home. He describes himself at that time as an avid bug collector and junior herbalist. Herpetologist. Dan has many talents and has used them creatively in his work like – working with musical instruments, framing pictures and painting pictures of his own, commercial gardening and trail making for the Riverbanks Zoo in South Carolina. Dan moved his family to Maine from SC looking for a good alternative high school for his children who were being homeschooled. The perfect place turned out to be Liberty School in Blue Hill. His two beautiful daughters have both graduated from high school now and are carrying on Dan's values in their work and study. Dan is a very proud and loving father. He carries forward his interest in nature and theology here in Maine and is exploring his talent in music and art. Dan is very modest about his gift as an artist but for the real truth, check out his painting of Young Girl with a Lamb that hangs to the left of the entrance of our church. Dan hopes to continue to find ways to use his love of the environment to carry out his religious beliefs. He firmly believes that the way to 'save' ourselves is by sensing our deep connectedness to the earth and each other. To quote Dan directly-“We are the keepers, but we are also the kept. We are here and now. The reason why I choose Unitarianism is I feel it is key that will unlock my ideal of a world open toward healing our future. I feel we will only achieve this through the heart of compassion, not intellect.”



Nuts and Bolts

from the Board of Trustees President

[This column, submitted monthly, will focus on the “nuts and bolts” of Board and committee business, as opposed to policies, planning, or visionary work.]

Congregational Meetings – BREAKING NEWS – We have no more congregational meetings until fall. Enjoy your summer.

Farewell Matt, Emily, Owen and Marshall - As many of you know, Matt Baya and family are moving to western Massachusetts where Matt will start a new job at Williams College on July 5th. Matt has been our faithful web master and all-round tech support person. Like WERU, we will miss you.

UUCE Web Site – Caitlin, our wonderful admin, is taking over the church web site. Caitlin brings a depth of editorial experience to this additional duty. Committee Chairs, please send your news and meeting notices to Caitlin. EVERYONE: Please check our web pages regularly. We need to begin using this vehicle as a primary means of communication. Uuellsworth.org

Religious Education – We are delighted at the news from Anne Ossanna about the growth of the RE committee, the summer children’s activities, and her plans for this fall. Anne hit the ground running and is making good her intention to take an aggressive approach to building the program. Very exciting. Thanks, Anne.

The Board is deeply committed to our youth and children and the RE program. We will give our RE teachers, the RE Committee, and the RE Coordinator our wholehearted support.

By-laws – Now that we have passed the ministerial hurdle, it is time to think about the UUCE by-laws. John Fink is the chair of the new By-laws Committee. It will soon be five years since the UUCE By-laws were reviewed and modified. Please read through the by-laws at the UUCE web site (in the pull-down menu under “About”) and

give your suggestions to John. Your comments are appreciated and needed. The by-laws govern many aspects of church governance. Send your thoughts to John at corp1030@myfairpoint.net.

Election Committee – Contrary to popular opinion, the Election Committee is active year-round. The committee members are Anne Ossanna, Ruth Evelyn, and Wayne Smith. Ruth and Anne are available to tell you what it’s like to serve on the Board of Trustees. This service is one of the most critical ways to contribute to UUCE. If you are at all interested, talk to one of these folks. The Election Committee’s next recruiting job is to find folks to run for the 2012 Election Committee, which will be elected at the winter Congregational meeting.

Summer Board of Trustees meetings – The July meeting is the second Thursday night, as usual, July 14th. The August meeting, however, will be the fourth Thursday night, August 18th. Meetings begin promptly at 6:00 pm. The first 15 minutes are reserved for congregational comment. If you want to be heard, that’s the time.

2011 General Assembly, Charlotte, NC – By the time you read this, your Board President, your Music Director, and his husband will have gone and come back from GA. We will return with inspiration, information, and music. Ask us.

In ministry,

Diana Cate

djcate35@gmail.com

207-664-3010



Summer Greetings from RE

The transition to RE Coordinator has gone fairly smooth. Historically there have been no RE activities during the summer months, but since so many children have been attending; we will be offering a structured activity each Sunday this summer. Children ages 4 through 10 are welcome to come back to the RE wing after the Story for All Ages for a time of song, story, sharing and snack. Please make sure your children wear their "dirty clothes" which means, cloths they can get dirty in as we will be outside as much as weather permits....please no open toe shoes!

The nursery is looking for volunteers to help in July and August. Emma Kell will be our paid worker, but could use some adult help as well.

Just a reminder parents...the nursery is just for infants to age 4, no exceptions. Children 4 and older are not to be left unattended in the RE wing before church or until RE classes begin. Parents are expected to pick up their children as soon as the worship service is over.

Several new UUA endorsed books have been ordered and will be available soon in our newly established Lending Library. Please see me any Sunday morning to check out a book.

We have many exciting things planned for RE this year, and a dedicated committee to make sure this happens. Feel free to contact me via email at:

anne@uuellsworth.org. If you do not have email, please feel free to call 565-2057 or see me on Sunday at UUCE. I would love to hear your dreams, concerns and ideas to enhance the Volunteer RE Programs offered at UUCE!

In Ministry Together,

Anne



June was Tom Grogan's last month as our Director of Religious Education. The following was the Board President's address to Tom at the Sunday service, June 5, 2011:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you, Tom, for almost two years of service to UUCE. We have a cake in your honor back in the community room. It is a very small token of our large appreciation.

Some of our members are not really aware of what you have meant to RE these past months, so let me tell a little of what we will miss.

Tom has been a very conscientious and supportive director of religious education. When the Board did Tom's job review, the teachers, those who were most aware of what happens back in the classrooms, made sure we knew this.

For instance, early in his tenure he made a rule that each classroom will have two adults present. To meet this criterion he has sometimes even brought in his family to fill the holes.

Tom has a wonderful way with children. They feel he is genuine and sincere and that they can talk with him. He has been a mentor with some of the older youth. When he is in the nursery I'm told he gets totally engaged with the babies.

Most of you know that Tom's stories during the service are wonderful, well done and lively. He picks good stories and makes them his own. This is an example of turning his visual handicap into an advantage. Since he cannot easily read, he tells the stories in his own way.

These are only some of the things we will miss, Tom. Mostly we will miss your quiet, steady, egalitarian leadership.

Farewell. And thank you.

Adult Religious Education

Summer is finally officially here. In recognition of the busy lives many of us living in "Vacationland" have during the summer months, the Adult Religious Education program will slow down. The thinking is that we do not want to present topics that people are interested in when many are unavailable to attend. We look forward to a full fall schedule that will be both stimulating and educational in the spirit of the UU Principles. With that goal in mind, an e-mail will be sent to all committee members listing topics that are being considered for the fall as well as a request for any ideas members may have on possible offerings that may be of interest to the congregation. As always, the Adult RE Committee welcomes ideas and feedback from all UUCE members. Our hope is that anyone with an interest in the Adult RE program will consider becoming a committee member. Throughout the summer months we will continue to offer Movie and Pizza night featuring Matt Slater's famous and extremely delicious pizza. Movie night will be the third Thursday of every month at 6:00PM. Movie selection for each month is based on input from those attending the movie the previous month. July's movie will be on July 21st. The title will be in the UUCE Weekly News and announced at the Sunday service the week prior to the showing of the movie. July's committee meeting will be held on July 10th at 9:00 AM. We will be planning the fall schedule at that time. We hope all committee members and anyone interested in becoming a member or just having an input in the scheduling of fall offerings will attend. We want the Adult Religious Education program to reflect the diverse interests of all UUCE members and we need your voice to do that. We hope to see you there. Any questions or comments please contact me, Stephen or Matt. Thank you.
Janice Ronco, Co-chair, Adult RE Committee

Treasurer's Corner

Total income for May was \$6,696.80. This was \$1,904.40 more than the total expenses for the month of May, which were \$4,792.80.

Finances are still positive. Total income is at \$90,383.59 or 0.43% above the annual budget of \$90,000. Pledge income from May was \$4,579.33, giving us a total of \$67,490, which is 0.78% above where we should be at the end of May, based on our total budget figure of \$73,000. I am confident that our shortfall from pledges will not exceed \$4,000. We budgeted a pledge shortfall of \$6,000.

Plate income is at \$8,149.31, which is 19.84% over the budgeted figure of \$6,800.

Fundraising has not changed. It is still \$1,048 above the budgeted figure of \$5,000. Rental income for May was good, at \$1,246, providing a total for the year of \$4,636. This is still 25.44% below the budgeted figure of \$7,000. We should reach my previous projection of \$5,000 for the year.

Our finances at this time are very healthy and I am anticipating that we will end the year in a positive situation. Again, I must remind you that expenses for June will be approximately \$15,000, which is \$9,000 above average.

We will not be closing the books on the 2010-2011 church year until the end of July. If you have not paid your pledge in full, you can still make a payment. Just indicate in the memo portion of your check "2010-2011".

The 2011-2012 church year begins on July 1st with a professional minister. We will need to focus our efforts on how to increase income to continue our commitment to professional ministry. I am confident we can. This new church year will be an exciting chapter in the long history of this congregation.

Don Martin, Treasurer

From the Board

Annual Congregational Meeting, May 22 Elections

Annual elections for the Board of Trustees were held. Pam Person and Matt Slater were elected to fill the 2 trustee vacancies. There were no candidates for the Vice President slot. A motion was made and carried to leave the VP position vacant for now.

Discussion of Professional Ministry

Larry Lemmel, a UU consultant for the Northern New England District, facilitated this important discussion. "My job is to facilitate what this church wants for a ministry. This includes the ministry of the professional minister and ministry of all of you. The discussion will consist of what is included in ministry rather than who is going to do it". A thorough and thoughtful discussion of what our congregation wants in a minister followed. The board has recommended that Sara Huisjen be our contract minister. A special congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, June 19 to approve the budget and if approved to then vote on whether or not to hire Sara.

BOT Meeting, June 9, 2011

Present: Board- Diana Cate, Karen Volckhausen, Don Martin, Cynthia Perkins, Pam Person, Eileen Brennan, John Fink, Jenn Ryan, Matt Slater
DLRE- Tom Grogan

Congregation- Evelyn Foster

Committee chat- Membership Committee

Evelyn Foster, Chair gave a report of the incredible amount of work this incredible committee does. One of their many grand accomplishments this year is that 19 members have been added to the roles bringing our active membership to 92.

RE report

See elsewhere in this issue

Financial report

See Treasurer's Corner

Minister's job description

We reviewed the job description that Cynthia and her committee have created. This has been read by Sara who agreed with it.

Motion was made and carried to accept this job description

Minister's contract

Cynthia and her committee will work on this with Sara's input.

Bylaws *pro tem* Committee

John Fink has a functioning committee. He has sent each member a copy of the current bylaws plus UUA's booklet on drafting and revising bylaws.

Administrator's job description

We reviewed a list of Caitlin's duties and responsibilities and were astounded that one person could do everything on that list. She is a precious resource!! Currently, she is in the process of writing her job description.

Fire alarm

Don is working with the fire chief on our fire alarm system. The good news is that we are in compliance with the law. The chief recommends that we replace some of our heat detectors with smoke detectors as they are considered life saving devices. He thinks that there is a short in the alarm panel and is in the process of testing this. The batteries in the smoke detector in the community room have been replaced.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, July 14, 6 PM.

The first 15 minutes are reserved for congregational comment

Note: The August Board meeting has been moved to August 18, the 3rd Thursday!



Caring Corner

Michael and Sharr Mellott introduced with great joy their new son, Michael, who visited UUCE for the first time on May 15.

Sue and Bill Clark shared their joy at the 21st birthday of their grandson Zachary on May 17th.

Kay Wilkins reported with sadness the sudden and unexpected death in mid-May of her friend and fellow community gardener Jim Beer. Jim was involved with the garden even before Kay.

George Marcus shared the sorrow he and Paula felt at the death of their friend Becky Sargent. Becky and her husband were partners in Atkinson Builders and the two couples became friends during the building of George and Paula's house.

On May 22, Sue Clark asked that we think good thoughts for Barbara Rappaport who recently had what Barbara describes as a "small stroke".

Mickey Worth was in attendance when her husband Mark led the service on May 22 and expressed her gratitude to the congregation for their support and encouragement for her return to school to earn her graduate degree. Mickey said she has just 2 more courses to complete and then will be done with her Master's program.

We shared Evelyn Foster's joy and gratitude that the "big scare" she experienced in mid-May turned out to not be a recurrence of cancer. A trip to Boston and a consultation with her doctors showed that "everything is fine".

We were sorry to learn that Patty Herklotz suffered an attack from a dog while making a home visit in late May on behalf of Hospice of Hancock County and required 80 stitches to her arm and shoulder.

Jody Murphy shared her sorrow that her partner, Ryan Bagojevic, was in a car accident on Newbury

Neck Road on the night of Saturday, May 14 and suffered serious head injuries. He was in intensive care and unresponsive for several days but Jody said she was encouraged that one week later, when she spoke his name, Ryan was able to open one eye and give her a little wave. Jody also shared her story of how she had been anticipating the event of her Toyota turning over 200,000 miles and hoped that it would happen in someplace special so that she could take a photo. She was a bit disappointed to find that when the event was about to happen, she was simply driving down the Bucksport road.

But Jody was stunned that just as the odometer rolled over to 200K, she found herself right in front of the UU church.

Matt Slater shared his joy on May 29 for the help of Evelyn Foster, Doug Kell, and Anne Ossanna for working on the outdoor sanctuary. Sue Clark added her appreciation for Evelyn Foster's creativity, and thanks to Wayne Smith, CJ Lavertu, and Matt, there is a bench at the end of the curved path.

We were delighted to have Bruce Thulin with us at Sunday service on May 29 and Bruce shared his joy of seeing the kids throughout the year in the church, and looking forward to when the kids are part of the service. He said he doesn't know where he'd be without them!

Maria Strong recently returned from a trip to Scottsdale Arizona and had the joy of an exquisite experience watching her granddaughter, Krista Potenza, play the lead role in Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. Maria was very happy to be with family.

Tom Stipe related on June 5 that he has gotten a large shipment of wood pellets –around 6 tons worth--for his and Nenita's pellet stove and that he needs help moving loads of those to the basement. (Pellet bags are about 40 pounds each for anyone considering assisting Tom and Nenita with the moving of same). Anyone interested in helping may contact Tom at 667-8628 or by email at thomas.stipe@myfairpoint.net.

Many thanks to Carol Mathiesen on acquiring a kitchen cart for UUCE's kitchen for a good price, and much appreciation to Matt Slater and C.J. Lavertu for their work in assembling it.

New members Abby and Michael Tadenev shared that they recently traveled back to Maryland where they thoroughly enjoyed seeing many old friends and family members. Abby just completed her Ph.D. thesis dissertation and Mike has recently taken a full time position in Bangor.

Congratulations to Anne Ossanna on the recent newspaper article recognizing Anne's work at Friendship Cottage.

Dartha Reid recently returned from a wedding in Cincinnati at end of May and had the pleasure of seeing all of her stateside relatives. The wedding was held on a riverboat moving along the river and was quite a fun and relaxing time for everyone.

Haydee Foreman shared that son Quinn, who's a junior at George Stevens Academy, just received 2 awards. One was the Dartmouth Award (for writing) and another was a high level science award.

Evelyn Foster shared the joy of going to her 55th college reunion at UMO at beginning of June. She shared that Sue Furth from our congregation was at the alumni banquet with her entire family to be present at the special awards ceremony for her son. Alan Furth of Lubec received the prestigious alumna award for outstanding and innovative contributions to his community. Alan over the past ten years has created Cobscook Community Learning Center which includes an alternative high school for disadvantaged and learning disabled teenagers from Washington County.

Tom Grogan expressed deep gratitude for the condolences he's received from the UUCE community after the death of his mother on May 24.

On June 5, Susan Walsh shared her concern for her

mother, and asked everyone to please send healing energies. Susan's mother has been diagnosed with 2 different cancers – one is breast cancer, which her doctors see as very manageable, but the second is lung cancer, with a fist-sized tumor and concerns that she might not be a good candidate for surgery.

Peggy Strong reported on June 12 that Mary Ellen Olcott and Arthur Brieger will not likely make it to Maine this year. Arthur is having physical therapy to help with the weakness and weight loss that he is experiencing and so they will remain in Florida. Their address there is 15550 El Camino Real, Apt. 436, The Villages, Florida 32159.

Diana Cate reported on June 12 her joy of having a new great-nephew, Jack Harp, in San Diego whom she hopes to visit soon.

Rebecca Rhodes Stebbins, the mother of Anne Funderburk, died early Wednesday morning of pneumonia, just 5 weeks short of her 99th birthday. Anne and Lance wish to thank the congregation for all their loving support through these last difficult months.

Kathy Combs, who has been in Rhode Island on a family emergency, shares the sorrow that her beloved sister-in-law, Jean Lund (her husband Ted's older sister) passed away peacefully at her home in Barrington, Rhode Island surrounded by her close family on the afternoon of June 14th. Jean had been transferred from her medical facility several days prior and was able to spend her last days at home under the care of hospice and her family. Kathy will be returning home to Maine soon. Please keep Kathy's family in your thoughts.

Jon Thomas reported on June 12 that Jane's June 7 hip surgery went well and she is at Blue Hill Hospital for rehab.

We congratulate several members of the congregation who celebrated wedding anniversaries in June: John and Nina Turner celebrated their 46th anniversary, Marta Rieman and Bart Clayton their 29th and Jon and Jane

Thomas their 35th. Also, we wished a Happy Birthday to Jean Martin on June 12.

This month we are celebrating our UUCE family's many accomplished graduates: Charles Bassett proudly reported that his grandson, Bradon Kell, graduated from EHS and was 1st essayist. Anne Ossanna reported that her son, Elliot, graduated from Sumner HS and was also 1st essayist, and added with a big smile, two down and one to go! Helen Conway, who provides childcare in UUCE's religious exploration classes, and Holly Thulin, daughter of Carol Rosinski and Bruce Thulin, both graduated with honors from Sumner and EHS respectively. Congratulations to all the graduates!

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry

UUCE is responsible for staffing the Food Pantry during the month of August. That mean we need 4 people for every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for a total of 14 mornings. The volunteers need to be there by 8 a.m. and we usually get out between 10 and 11 a.m.

This is a meaningful and fun service to our larger community. Time-wise it is the largest social justice activity of our congregation.

Please look at your calendars and sign up for a morning or better yet 2 or 3 mornings. It takes a lot of people power to get this done—a total of 56 staffing needs for the month (4 people each morning for 14 days). We sort produce that arrives around 8 and make sure the shelves are stocked, we assist clients when they arrive starting at 9, and after the clients have all been served we sweep the floors and restock the shelves.

The sign-up poster is in the Community Room. It is large and deep orange, hard to miss. If you have questions please call me at 244-3520 or catch me on Sunday morning.

Judy Rothrock, Pantry Coordinator

From the Leadership Development Committee

The Leadership Development Committee (current members: Marta Rieman, chair, Karen Wigglesworth, Diana Cate, Bill Clark, Don Martin and Evelyn Foster) has arranged for a Committee Chair Council to be held on June 29. We're excited about getting all the committee chairs together in the same room in order to brainstorm about how we can best continue our work together for this wonderful church. Pam Person is working on updating our Procedures Manual and is requesting committee chair help on this project, which was the original impetus behind this meeting. Stay tuned for a report on what we accomplished in the next NUUS!

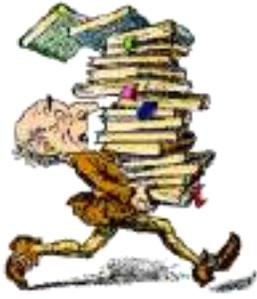
Marta Rieman

A Note from Anne

Dear Members of my Family of Choice,

Thank you so much for all your love and support during these last stages of my mother, Rebecca's, long and varied life. You have held me, carried me, and kept me in your thoughts. You have shared your strength when mine ran out. You have loved me when I was in despair. Now you have showered me with your care and concern as I grieve her death, and for all that I thank you more than I can say. Lance once gave me a sweatshirt with a picture on the front of lots of different people holding hands and a statement: "A Family is a Circle of Friends Who Love You." You are that Family and I love you too.

Anne Funderburk



Food for Thought

By Stephen Berger

Honor and the Golden Rule

Most of us, I imagine, think the Golden Rule – do unto others as you would that they do unto you – expresses a profound ethical truth. In effect, it asks us what do we want to receive from others. The problem with it, I suggest, is that it is so general, so abstract, so vague, that it has little cutting edge.

Perhaps we get a bit more leverage if add Rabbi Hillel's negative version: What is distasteful to you, do not do unto others. This suggests that we look also at what we do not want to receive from others.¹

I found a slightly more concrete version reading through Jacob Neusner's *First Century Judaism in Crisis* (Abingdon, 1975). The disciples of Rabbi Yohannan ben Zakkai, who preserved Judaism and transformed it after the destruction of the Second Temple, remembered him saying:

“Let the honor of your fellow man be as dear to you as your own: how so? Even as one looks out for his own honor, so should he look out for the honor of his fellow man. And even as no man wishes that his own honor be made light of, so should he wish that the honor of his

fellow man shall not be made light of.” (p. 111)

Insults to our honor, put-downs, humiliations, slights, make us furious. And that is when we are least likely to speak and act in ways which “look out for the honor” of the person who has done this to us. We want to hurt them, and to see that hurt.

How do you deal with this?



¹ The story is that a Roman centurion stops Hillel, points his spear at him and forces him to stand on one foot and describe what Jews believe. Hillel supposedly said: “What is distasteful to you, do not do unto others. The rest is commentary. Now go and study.” “The rest is commentary” became a Jewish catchphrase.



Kitchen Corner

By Anne Funderburk

Since the placement of ant traps behind the stove and refrigerator the plague of black ants seems to be abating. Please be mindful about promptly cleaning up spills of any sweet substances. Loose sugar is now stored in the refrigerator to discourage reinvasion.

The new card holders for labeling the door and drawer fronts have just arrived. Cynthia will use her mini-drill to attach them, and Anne Ossanna has offered to make the labels with her label-writer. If you have ideas about the new locations of items, please communicate these to the Kitchen Committee, c/o Anne Funderburk (276-3301 OR afunder@roadrunner.com).

So as to maintain some semblance of order, it has been suggested that we post a large framed placard of Kitchen Guidelines on the wall outside the entry above the fire extinguisher. For example: 1.) "If you use it, wash it & replace it where you found it." 2.) "Remove all unused foods to avoid clutter in the refrigerator." 3.) "Food items left in refrigerator for specific uses MUST be so labeled." 4.) "Avoid leaving dishes & pans in dish drainer; put them away." 5.) "Wipe down all surfaces before leaving. Wipe up any floor spills." 6.) "If using dishwasher, follow directions posted on wall EXACTLY. Prop door slightly open after turning off."

If you have any ideas about guidelines, please contact the Committee as above.



Flower Coordinator's Basket

by Nancy Avilla

Greetings from the UUCE "flower girl." This is a new position of service to UUCE.

In the past an informal group of volunteers provided flowers for services. Mostly this worked really well. Some Sundays we had lots of blooms but some Sundays not enough. Summer is always bounteous but winter can be a spare.

As UUCE grows, someone needs to make sure we have flowers for the Sunday services and other special events at church. I will not be providing flowers but will coordinate flower contributions.

We have a number of excellent gardeners in the congregation who like to bring in some of their lovely arrangements. This is great. And occasionally someone wants to provide flowers to commemorate a special person or event. So please call or email me ahead of time so I can space out contributions.

During the summer growing season Karen Volckhausen provides one large arrangement from her commercial flower garden for the chalice table. However we can use one or two other arrangements for the greeters' table and other places. If you would like to sign up for one Sunday once a month or every second month or just get on a list of people I can call upon every now and then it would be greatly appreciated by all!

Call me at 207-288-4206, or email potl@roadrunner.com. Thank you.

Political and Social Action (PASA)

100 Mile Potluck

The Peace and Social Action Committee is hosting a "100 Mile" Potluck on Sunday, July 3rd immediately after the church service. Food for this special potluck will be comprised of ingredients grown within a 100 mile radius. Everyone is invited to participate.

We look forward to discussing the difficulties and rewards of making healthy and tasty dishes made with only local ingredients. Please join us and have some fun with this creative challenge. Just do the best you can!

The first edition of PASA's Resource Guide for Ethical Eating is free and will be available at the potluck. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Karen Volckhausen, 667-9212 or kvolckhausen90@gmail.com.

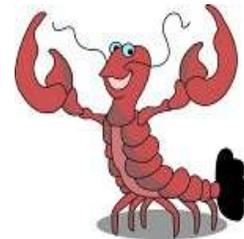
[Ed. Note: The Hancock County Community Network (HCCN) publishes a monthly list of events related to the peace and social action theme which you can reach at http://mainetalk.org/mailman/listinfo/hccn_mainetalk.org. There you can access an archive of past postings, and you can enroll as a subscriber and receive future emails that notify you of area events that relate to peace and social justice. Once you are member, you can send your own announcements directly. If you don't want to subscribe, you can still access the past postings. All announcements are monitored by a site administrator before posting, so there's no spam. This email communication network was begun during the start up of the wars of the early 2000's and has continued as a valuable way of rapidly getting the word out on local events, especially those in Hancock County.]

Breaking News!

Mark your calendar to reserve July 30th at 4:00 p.m. for the second annual UUCE Lobster Bake at Cynthia Perkins' waterfront cottage on Taunton Bay in Sullivan. The meal will include Betty Massie's favorite recipes for boiled lobster, and steamed vegetables, sausage and mussels. Beverages including lemonade, beer, wine, and ice tea will be served. Special homemade desserts will be included in the price of \$55.00 per person.

You do not need to bring anything except your appetite for good food, conversation, and your favorite lawn chair. Musical instruments are encouraged. S'mores, entertainment, and songs around a roaring campfire will cap off the evening. Space is limited to 55 people so purchase your tickets early from Don Martin. Reservations will be accepted at 664-0309. This is a great opportunity to support your church and have fun doing so. If you cannot attend the event, please consider purchasing a ticket to help this fund raiser for the church. The committee will donate the ticket to someone in the church who would like to come but cannot afford the price of a ticket. Last year we were able to provide five complimentary tickets.

Great fun and delicious food are guaranteed or your money back! If you were there last year, you do not want to miss this event. If you missed it last year, you will not want to miss it again. The location is awesome and you will take home memories to last through the church year. Purchase your tickets early and plan to enjoy the evening. Friends are welcome!



Personnel

Contact Information

Minister

Rev. Sara Hayman Huisjen: 326-0576
610-2872 (cell)

Huisjen@gmail.com

Church Office (M,W,F, 1:00-5:00 P.M.)

Caitlin Tunney: 667-4393

office@uuellsworth.org

Find UUCE on the web at www.uuellsworth.org

President of the Board

Diana Cate: 664-3010

president@uuellsworth.org

Religious Education Coordinator

Anne Ossanna: 565-2057

anne@uuellsworth.org

Music Director

Wayne Smith: 667-9482

Newsletter Editor

Lance Funderburk: 276-3301

lfunderburk@roadrunner.com

[Submit articles by the 15th of each month]

Board of Trustees

President: Diana Cate, 664-3010

djcate@myfairpoint.net

Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer: Don Martin

Secretary: Karen Volckhausen

Trustee: John Fink, to 2012

Trustee: Eileen Brennan, to 2012

Trustee: Cynthia Perkins, to 2013

Trustee: Jenn Ryan, to 2013

Trustee: Matt Slater, to 2014

Trustee: Pam Person, to 2014

Committee and Task Force Chairs

Aesthetics: Linda Laing

Adult Education: Stephen Berger & Janice Ronco

Art in the Sanctuary: Jude Lamb

Auction: Peggy Strong

Budget and Finance: Don Martin

Building Maintenance: Don Martin

Coffee Hour: Bill Clark

Caring Committee: Suzanne Forest

Choir: Marta Rieman & Haydee Foreman

Elections: Anne Ossanna

Flowers: Nancy Avila

Green Sanctuary: Kay Wilkins

History Committee: Wayne Smith

Kitchen: Anne Funderburk

Landscaping: Sue Clark

Leadership Development: Marta Rieman

Library: Vacant

Membership: Evelyn Foster

[Greeters: Judy Rothrock]

Committee on Ministry: Suspended until
August 2011

Music: Jean Martin

Peace and Social Action: Karen Volckhausen

Potluck: Carol Mathiesen

Procedures: Pam Person

Stewardship: Don Martin

Sunday order of service: Send announcements to
office@uuellsworth.org

Small Group Ministry: Sara Huisjen

Ushers: Jon Thomas

Web Pages: Caitlin Tunney at church office

Worship: Cynthia Perkins



July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:00 AA	2
3 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 100-mile potluck	4	5 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	6 6:30 Coyote Group	7 12:00 Al-Anon	8 6:00 AA	9
10 10:30 a.m. Worship Service HUNGRY SUNDAY	11	12 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Private memorial service	13 6:30 Coyote Group	14 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Board Meeting	15 6:00 AA	16
17 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	18	19 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon 7:00 Toshi Kono concert	20 6:30 Coyote Group	21 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Pizza & Movie Night	22 6:00 AA	23
24 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	25	26 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	27 6:30 Coyote Group	28 12:00 Al-Anon	29 6:00 AA	30 9:00 Lodestar workshop 4:00 Lobster Bake!
31 10:30 a.m. Worship Service						

UUCE events are in **RED**. Rentals and building use events not otherwise connected to UUCE are in **BLACK**.

To reserve space at the UUCE, Email: office@uellsworth.org ; phone: 207-667-4393. Leave a message and someone from the church will contact you.

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

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U.S Postage Paid
Permit Number 93
Ellsworth, ME 04605

The NUUS

July 2011

The NUUS
Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth
July, 2011 **Vol. 43, No. 7**

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.**

