



The NUUS

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

Volume 43

No. 9 September 2011

A Month of Sundays

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

September 4. *We Gather Together*

Rev. Sara Huisjen

This Intergenerational, Ingathering Worship Service will joyfully mark the beginning of this new church year. Welcome back or for the first time to UUCE as we consider the many blessings that come with creating and nurturing our liberal religious faith community. All are invited to bring a small container of water collected from a place significant to them to be offered as part of a Water Communion ritual we will create.

Potluck

September 11. *We Remember Them...*

Rev. Sara Huisjen

On this day that marks the 10th year anniversary of the tragic events of 9/11, this service will explore a few of the questions we all have or will struggle with at times in our lives: How do we respond to such tragedies? How are we changed? How might deepened love & transformation *through* such tragedy and losses be or *become* possible in our lives?

September 18. *The Unitarian Universalist Diaspora: Budapest, Boston and Beyond*

Jim Fisher

Jim Fisher joined the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth in 1999, having joined UU Churches in Virginia, North Carolina, Ohio and Maine. He moved a lot before settling here for more than ten

years. His graduate research on migration and development finds a new perspective in looking at how travels can drive or be driven by religious transformation.

September 25. *The Soul on its Knees*

Rev. Karen Foley

Victor Hugo said, "There are times when, no matter what the attitude of the body, the soul is on its knees." How and why do we pray, or how and why don't we? I grew up praying, did/could not pray for years, and returned slowly and unsurely to the practice, which has become integral to my life. I believe that anyone who meditates or prays struggles with it at least sometimes!

Ministerial Start-up

Friday Night, September 30

When a congregation calls or hires a new minister, the UUA district, in our case the Northern New England District, sends a staff person to facilitate congregational discussion about our expectations of the ministry and of what the congregation might become. Rev. Karen Brammer will meet with us Friday evening, September 30, from 5:30 to 8:30 for potluck and discussion.

This will be a time to share expectations of our minister (and hers of us) and to spin dreams of what the congregation may become under Rev. Sara Huisjen's leadership. We will also be invited to share what we've learned about ourselves as a congregation through the past months of growth.

Please save this date and plan to participate. It is important.

Ministry Matters by Rev. Sara Huisjen

The laminate flooring is installed in my cozy new office at church, thanks in largest part to my generous husband, Dan. My grandmother's desk fits perfectly in the corner, a poignant reminder of a woman who loved & nurtured me, as well as the Methodist Church we all attended. Kay & Diana's rocking chair is present, ready & waiting for someone to drop by and sit in it, and I am settling more and more into my new role at church as your minister, still astounded at times that this is all happening.

In the two weeks leading up to my official start date of 8/15, while on vacation from hospice, I found myself determined to clean, sort and re-organize nearly everything in my home and offices. Dan is still nervous about all the stuff I've set aside for a yard sale, but doing this work was good and important, a necessary kind of preparation I needed to be ready to begin working with you. And so I wonder:

How do *you* prepare for changes in your life, the ones you're lucky enough to know are coming, and those that arrive unannounced, even unbidden at times?

How do you try to make room for the new, and let go of things, belongings and practices that you know no longer serve you?

What helps you feel prepared to set out on some new adventure, at once grateful for and grown by all that has come before, and hungry and hopeful for all to come?

These questions are alive in *my* life in this moment – touchstones I come back to each day as I transition into this new ministry among you. Of course, this is a time of transition at UUCE, too, a new chapter in the life of a vibrant community; a time full of hope and unknowing, imagining and setting out to build together, step by step, the congregation we wish to be together.

I hope to see you (even *meet* you!) at our annual **Ingathering Worship Service** on 9/4 at 10:30am. At this service, we will joyfully mark the start of this new church year. Please bring a small container of water from a source significant to you to share as part of a Water Communion ritual we will create. Later in the month, on Friday, 9/30 from 5:30-8:30pm at church, I hope you'll join us for a potluck gathering & conversation as part of a **Ministerial Start-Up** event. This evening gathering will provide a fun and meaningful way to explore our expectations and aspirations for ministry, and to begin mapping out together the course we intend to take.

Yours in Ministry Together,
Sara

Monthly UUCE Book Discussion Group

Beginning this month on two Thursdays, 9/15 and 9/29 from 12:00pm- 1:30pm at the church, Rev. Sara will host & facilitate the first of twice monthly book discussion groups she will offer. Each month she will choose a book of particular interest to her. Please know she welcomes your suggestions re: books to read and consider together.

This month's book is [Beginner's Grace: Bringing Prayer to Life](#), written by the Rev. Dr. Kate Braestrup, a UU Community Minister affiliated with the Rockland church who serves as chaplain with the Maine Warden Service. Written in a beautiful, funny, honest narrative style, this book invites readers an opportunity to explore what prayer means to Kate, and to consider the many ways one *might* choose to pray.

For the first 9/15 session, please pp. 3-130, the first two sections, *Invitations* and *Siren Calls*. For the 9/29 gathering, read the remainder of the book, pp. 131-257. Bring your brown bag lunch and your thoughts & reflections to share. It will be good to be together!

Beginner's Grace: Bringing Prayer to Life, by Kate Braestrup

ISBN # 978-1-4391-8428-8

Hardcover, \$25.00.

Message from the President

ETHEL SCHWALBE and CARL STEHMAN

The first Unitarian Church in Ellsworth was a Victorian building on the land that is now a city park at the corner of Main and High – a busy intersection still as it was then. We now have a lovely Unitarian Universalist Church building situated, very deliberately, in the woods and out of the bustling downtown area.

When our current structure was built it consisted of the sanctuary, the entryway, the minister's office, the restroom/coat-rack area, and a hallway less than half the size of the current one. That's all. Period.

In the early 1980s a woman named Ethel Schwalbe moved to Steuben, having just retired from government service in Washington, D.C. She joined UUCE and soon became a mover and shaker at church as well as other community service organizations. She became a long time member of the Washington Hancock Community Agency Board of Directors. Upon her departure from that organization WHCA created the Ethel Schwalbe Award, presented to a board member to acknowledge exceptional board service. WHCA continues to bestow the award annually, keeping Ethel's name and memory alive in our community.

At UUCE Ethel was involved in many activities, in particular the Women's Alliance, which functioned as a significant fund-raising group, as well as a social group. Members and friends of the church had talked off and on in the 1980s about the need to expand the building to provide a meeting space, but little came of the talk. Ethel began to agitate to get construction off the ground, and to include a kitchen. Ethel was, as usual, successful. The expansion was the result of many members' efforts, but it may not have happened, at least not then, if not for Ethel.

After this expansion UUCE experienced a population explosion of children in the 1990s. Perhaps this was an "if you build it they will come" phenomenon. The community room was divided into multiple spaces and RE classes sometimes even met in the hallway.

In 1997 Carl Stehman retired from a long and successful career as an electrical engineer. He and his wife, Fran, moved to Mount Desert Island and joined UUCE.

Carl was another mover and shaker. He soon was involved in UUCE as well as other community organizations. He became a member of the Board of Directors of Loaves and Fishes. The food pantry was then located on the back lot of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. St. Joe's was also experiencing a need to expand, this time their parking lot, and asked Loaves and Fishes to find another location. Carl proposed that UUCE lease part of our land to the food pantry and convinced our congregation that this was a good move.

At about the same time, our need for religious education space at UUCE was critical and obvious, in the opinion of many people. Several members, however, were staunchly opposed to going into that much debt. Carl felt the construction was warranted and would be a positive step for UUCE. He presented a convincing argument and sufficient numbers of members voted to build the RE wing. He sought out a professional fundraiser and asked for how-to lessons in fundraising. Carl then led the capital campaign at UUCE. Carl remained very involved with the planning and construction of the RE wing. This was another instance in which we would not have expanded without a single person's leadership.

Ethel died on December 23, 2003. When her will was opened we discovered that she left over \$80,000 to UUCE to pay off the mortgage on the RE wing.

Carl died on September 20, 2005. He was only 67 years old.

UUCE and the Loaves and Fishes food pantry would not be what they are today if not for Carl Stehman and Ethel Schwalbe. After two or more years of discussion, Bob Dickens presented a proposal to the UUCE Board of Trustees to name the community room for Ethel and the RE wing for Carl. The Board unanimously agreed. The congregation voted its approval at the May Congregational Meeting.

The Aesthetics Committee is working on the design and the plaques will be installed within the next few months.

UUCE has had many fine people to grace our halls, but these two people left a distinct imprint on the building. It is fitting that their names be memorialized on its walls.

In ministry,
Diana Cate



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.

SARA’S FIRST SERVICE AS OUR MINISTER will be Sunday, September 4th. We will have a festive, celebrative potluck dinner afterward, complete with cake and ice cream. Dig out a special recipe and let’s have a party.

Donations for Emmaus – Here’s an easy way to contribute to Emmaus. Gather your redeemable bottles, take them to Union River Redemption Center, tell the person at the counter they are for Emmaus, and the cash goes to Ellsworth’s homeless shelter. Doing good has never been so

easy. You don’t have to stand in line or wait for the bottles to be counted. They will simply ask you to put your bags in the corner till they can get to them. Let’s all do this. Union River Redemption Center, 242 Water Street, Ellsworth, 667-9452. Hours M-F 8-5, Sat 8-2.

Everybody Eats Benefit – This is another very worthwhile community service group. They serve a full sit-down meal every Monday at St. Dunston’s Church on State St. in Ellsworth. It is free and open to anyone who wishes to come. Everybody Eats is holding a major fundraiser on Labor Day. Flash In The Pans will regale us with an evening of wonderful music at Ellsworth Harbor Park on the Union River. There will be munchies and donations will be more than welcome. September 5th at 7:30. Rain venue would be elsewhere, to be announced if needed.

By-laws – It will soon be five years since the UUCE By-laws were reviewed and modified. John Fink is the chair of the new By-laws Committee. 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 – The Election Committee, Anne Ossanna, Ruth Evelyn, and Wayne Smith, would like to talk with you. Ruth is taking the lead right now looking for a Board Vice President. Leadership is critical and the Board will need a new President come next June. Filling the vacant VP slot for the next seven or eight months would be a natural stepping stone to the presidency, and an introduction to the workings of the board.

September Board of Trustees meeting – The next Board meeting is the second Thursday night, as usual, September 8th at 6:00 pm. The first 15 minutes are reserved for congregational comment. If you want to talk with the Board put the date on your calendar and do attend.

In ministry,
Diana Cate
djcate35@gmail.com
207-664-3010

Lifespan Religious Education

Greetings from Youth RE:

We will begin our fall program with an Ingathering Service on September 4th led by Rev. Sara. Registrations forms will be available to complete starting on Sunday August 28th. All of our teachers are lined up through December and we have many exciting activities planned for the youngest members of our faith community. We are still looking for donations of healthy plants in terra cotta pots and "kid friendly" fruits and veggies from your gardens. Please see me if you have any donations.

"POSITIVE PARENTING during the INCREDIBLE TODDLER years"

The Downeast Children's Council, a program of Downeast Health Services, is pleased to announce a new 8-week Tuesday series for parents, guardians and others caring for toddlers beginning September 13th at 5:00pm-7:00pm at 52 Christian Ridge Road, Ellsworth. If you are interested in participating in this FREE series, please call Candy Eaton at 667-5304 ext. 261 or email:

children@downeasthealth.org to reserve your place. *Pre-registration required, but all are welcome.* "Positive Parenting during the Incredible Toddler Years" will show you some of the ways that parents can nurture, teach and respond to their toddlers in sensitive ways that bring about their optimal social, emotional, physical and intellectual development. At one year of age, as babies change from infants to toddlers, there is a shift in the way they interact with their parents. Suddenly, your baby becomes aware of himself as an individual as well as aware of other fascinating and irresistible objects in his environment such as stuffed animals, rattles, dogs and toys. This stage is alternately endearing, entertaining, exhausting, and exasperating for parents.

Toddlers are making huge strides in all areas of development and need a great deal of patience, understanding and support to realize their full potential. Their ambition outstrips their skills in

almost every area and they need a lot of guidance and help at this stage of their lives. You must demonstrate everything, getting down on your hands and knees to show and tell if necessary. And remember, they are endlessly curious.

Each week, we will provide participants with an opportunity to discuss and learn from each other about a specific topic specific to "The Incredible Years for Toddlers (1-3 years – The Age of Exploration)". Linda Levesque, parent educator, will facilitate conversations about the following topics at Downeast Health Services, 52 Christian Ridge Road, Ellsworth:

- "Child-Directed Play Promotes Positive Relationships"
- "Promoting Toddlers' Language With Child-Directed Coaching"
- "Coaching Toddlers' Social and Emotional Competence"
- "Art of Effective Praise and Encouragement"
- "Spontaneous Incentives for Toddlers"
- "Handling Separation and Reunions With Toddlers"
- "Positive Discipline and Effective Limit Setting"
- "Positive Discipline – Handling Misbehavior"

This course is based on well-established behavioral / social-learning and child development principles that describe how behaviors are learned and how they can be changed. At the core of this approach is the simple idea that people change as a result of the interactions they have on a daily basis with one another. In the first lesson, parents and other adults will learn how to play with a child. This seems like such an easy and straightforward task that most adults overlook the importance of developing good play skills. These skills, however, are some of the most important of all for fostering positive interactions with children and reducing behavior problems. Moreover, play is a time when adults can respond to children in ways that build a good self-concept and encourage social, emotional, and cognitive growth.

Downeast Health Services Inc. seeks to provide all families with parent education and support. You learned how to parent an infant. Now, you need to "upgrade" your skills to parent a toddler. This is

so that you can do a more difficult job equally well and feel good about doing it! Please call 667-5304 ext. 261, email children@downeasthealth.org or visit our website at www.downeasthealth.org for additional information on parenting classes, support groups and family resources available in Downeast Maine. This series is funded by the Maine Children's Trust. For additional information, visit their website at www.mechildrenstrust.org.

Anne Ossanna

Adult Religious Education

Although it is difficult to let go of the summer, the Adult Religious Education Committee is very excited to begin its fall schedule. Offerings for the fall promise to be interesting and educational reflecting the diversity of interests and talents locally and within the congregation. We are also striving as we go forward to offer workshops and discussion groups on various days and times. We hope this will allow as many members as possible to attend as well as more outreach into the local community.

On Sunday, September 18th from 11:50-1:20 PM in the Board Room Bob Myers will be presenting "The Apostle Paul: Four New Testament Portraits--A Quick Overview"

We will identify the New Testament documents, which, according to current historical-critical scholarship, support each "portrait". Then we will note some of the primary features of each portrait. Finally, we'll talk about similarities and differences. Bob suggests reading either I Thessalonians or Galatians prior to the discussion.

Bob Myers has his Ph.D in New Testament from Emory University. He has been studying the Bible from the historical-critical-literary perspective for about sixty years. He has held teaching positions at Clark College, Mercer University and the Interdenominational Theological Center. On MDI,

Bob has offered courses in Acadia Senior College on Paul, the parable of Jesus and nineteenth-century feminists who advocated ordination for women.

On Sunday, September 25th from 11:50-1:10 PM in the Board Room: "How to Take Local and International Action to Increase Sustainability" We are privileged to have two of our own UUCE folk as speakers – Florence Reed, Director of Sustainability Harvest International and Dan Huisjen, Energy Conservation and Efficiency Consultant in Hancock County. They will discuss their international and local work to increase community sustainability. Pam Person will moderate and discuss how this event is part of the local Hancock County Transition Towns "Happiness Festival" (defining the goal of "happiness" to become more sustainable and resilient).

350.org's International Day of Climate Action is this same weekend when people all over the globe are taking action to reduce energy use-saving money and stress and increasing global sustainability.

All are welcome to attend and join the discussion – as most of the time it will be group discussion and you all have the knowledge or the questions! Please come.

The next committee meeting will be held Sunday October 2nd at 9:00 AM. We hope you will join us with your interests and ideas for future Adult RE offerings. If you have any questions or comments before then please contact me, Janice.

jronco2@roadrunner.com, Stephen sbergernh@roadrunner.com, or Matt brickcircle@yahoo.com.

Thank you!

Janice Ronco, Co-Chair

Caring Corner

Many thanks to all the workers who made the July 30 Lobster Bake possible and so successful! A very special thank you to Betty Massie for making it a memorable feast.

Carol Rosinski expressed her appreciation to all those who made it possible for her to get away from home for a few days to make a brief visit to her friend Erica in New Hampshire in late July.

Carol was especially grateful to those who helped out Bruce in her absence and thanked Peggy Strong and Helen Kazura for all their help, including providing walks for their dog.

Judy Rothrock had cataract surgery in mid-July and said that the procedure was amazingly fast and simple. It has led to a great improvement in her distance vision (but now she needs new reading glasses!)

We were glad to hear that Pam Person's hip replacement surgery on August 8 went well. Pam will rehab for a few days in Blue Hill before returning home.

Haydee Foreman expressed her gratitude toward Evelyn Foster, who hosted a potluck dinner on July 22 for the Membership Committee and new UUCE members at her home in Ellsworth. With many new members and Sara and Dan Huisjen in attendance and gracious hostess Evelyn, Haydee said it was a joyous evening.

On August 14, Sue Clark shared the news that Betty Jane McMichael, now age 88, is sailing into a new chapter in her life after moving into Dirigo Pines in Orono. Sue said that B.J. had spent 35 years in her home in Trenton and she and her husband Bill were active members of our church for many of those years. Among other projects, they did much landscaping work around the church grounds, along with the Thurstons and others.

We're sure Betty Jane would enjoy hearing from

her friends at UUCE. Her new address is:

Betty Jane MacMichael
9 Alumni Drive
Orono, ME 04473
Phone: 207-866-4008

Many of us at UUCE are enjoying summer visits from family and friends. Jane Thomas is happy that her nephew and family are spending time at their camp in Milo, so they are close by and can visit.

Jenn Ryan is enjoying a visit from her in-laws, and also happy that they have volunteered to assist her with day care. Judy Rothrock shared her joy on August 14 that her son and partner arrived for a visit, but unfortunately due to another commitment, her step-granddaughter Grace was not able to visit.

Art in the Sanctuary

Anyone interested in hanging their artwork or wall hangings in the sanctuary should contact Jude Lamb. Contact by email preferred, jude@judelamb.com



Landscape Committee

SATURDAY MORNING - SEPTEMBER 10th
CELEBRATE THE END OF SUMMER BY
PLANTING A NATIVE MAINE PLANT
(9:30 through 12:30)

Join us in giving 30 minutes or an hour to our respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part. Some plants and help by gardeners to be provided. We of the Landscape Committee are pledged to use organic methods (no poisons) and to provide native plants when possible. We are following in the steps of generations of UUs who have tried to do the same.

Because of known problems with plows, snow slides, saved spaces, and soil preparation, please check in with Sue Clark before planting. Please, No more *Pulmonaria officinalis*! (Lungwort)

We are eager to receive native friendship plants for ground cover from members who are thinning their gardens and yards. Questions? Phone 244-3051 or e-mail Sue at susan.clark@mygait.com. Remember the BUNCHBERRY - *CORNUS CANADENSIS* - OR CANADIAN DOGWOOD berries can be gathered and sowed. Who has violets to share? Or Black eyed Susans or Milkweed?

Rain date: 9/17

OCTOBER CLEAN UP OUTSIDE ON SATURDAY
THE 15TH
Trimming, cutting dead trees, raking and preparation for possible winter weather.

GOOD NEWS

We do have a signed contract for the surfacing of the North Path this fall.

Thank you to Martha Dickinson for loaning her mower and gas can.

Now we need a volunteer to mow the childrens'

play area and path to the back R.E. door. (I have a major problem with starting mowers.)

Annual Goods & Services Auction

Saturday, October 8th

What's your Auction donation?

This month, September, is the month for collecting all auction donations. This year we are doing a digital and print *CATALOG* of all the donations for you to study and drool over a head of time. I am very excited about this but it means that the deadline for donations will be EARLIER than previously, around mid-September. RIGHT NOW is the time to think about what your donation(s) this year. THINGS: Wander around your house, down to the basement, out to the garage and up into the attic, maybe even over to your Mom's or aunt's house. Open those closet doors and lighten your load! When a friend wonders what he is going to do with such and such that he no longer needs, suggest he donate it to the auction. SERVICES: Think about the things you enjoy doing and how much fun it is to share that activity or skill with others. These services connect us with each other and build church community. FOOD: We need donations of finger foods for the night of the auction.

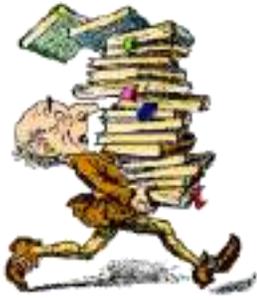
In the next couple of weeks, Auction committee members, with the help of others, will be making personal contact with you to help you with the donation form to insure we get good descriptions for the catalog. We want to do this quickly, thereby eliminating nagging and minimizing announcements! O Happy Day!

Committee members: Evelyn Foster, Don Martin, Diana Cate, Betty Massie (food), Peggy Strong (chair). Please contact any of us at any time.

Thanks, Peggy Strong

266-3006

goodnuff@escrap.com



Food for Thought

By Stephen Berger

Honor, Hypocrisy and Evil in Institutions

Two months ago I wrote about honor and the golden rule, and how our sense of honor may interfere with our living the golden rule.

Institutions, too, want to be seen as honorable – that is, as the embodiments of the values they claim to espouse and exemplify. And like individuals, institutions may find themselves harming rather than loving others.

Often institutions find themselves doing things their leaders feel necessary to achieve their ends which do not correspond to the values they claim: so businesses skim on service as costing too much while proclaiming their business is service. Another example where **institutional hypocrisy** comes into play are government agencies which are underfunded and so cannot provide services to all the people theoretically eligible for them. Social security disability is notorious for rejecting people who in fact do qualify for disability support. Another example is the Veterans' Administration's proclivity for declining to classify veterans as suffering from post traumatic stress disorder and therefore eligible both for support and psychiatric services.

Wikileaks exposes governmental hypocrisy in foreign policy – where leaders say one thing out loud and practice another in secret. After all, why else would the term “plausible deniability” have been created?

But honor does more than create hypocrisy: it causes institutions to suppress information about evils, rather than to deal with them. Too abstract? Ok, here's some examples: The Roman Catholic Church has been reluctant to acknowledge and

deal with pedophilic priests, presumably because to acknowledge the prevalence of these acts would be to dishonor the church. Similarly, our Armed Forces leadership has been reluctant to acknowledge the frequency with which rape occurs within the armed forces. (Remember the movie *The General's Daughter*?)

We all know the phrase “don't wash your dirty linen in public.” But if we don't acknowledge our dirty linen in public, how likely are we to deal with it in private?

Sunday Service Follow-Up:

John Shonle recommends:

Robert Funk et al., *The Five Gospels: What did Jesus Really Say?* Harper SanFrancisco, 1993.

LOAVES & FISHES FOOD PANTRY

Twenty-four individual members and friends volunteered at the Food Pantry this August. Many volunteered for 2 to 6 days during the month. We were at the pantry 14 days with 4 or 5 people each of those days. We sorted the fresh produce and eggs that came in each morning, helped clients navigate the pantry and make their choices, restocked the shelves after the clients left, and cleaned the floors as necessary. It was a rewarding experience, I believe, for all the participants; also fun and good to be together in a small group getting to know each other a little better. Each year that I have coordinated the volunteers for the month, I have worried that this year everyone will be too busy and we won't be able to get enough volunteers. Each year you come through with flying colors. So this is a huge **THANK YOU** to all who helped this year.

With much gratitude, Judy Rothrock-Pantry Coordinator

Political and Social Action (PASA)

Mark Sunday, September 11 on your calendar! The Peace and Social Action Committee and Adult RE will be co-sponsoring a talk by David Wilcock on his recent work assessing the Haitian rice sector for Oxfam America. Rice has been grown in Haiti for hundreds of years, but it has been until recent decades a luxury food reserved for the traditional Haitian "Sunday dinner". This is because other staple foods, especially tropical roots and tubers and other grains, provided cheaper calories and a more balanced diet. Over the past 20 years pressure from the US Government and the World Bank caused Haiti to lower its import tariff on rice to the lowest level in the Caribbean and Central America. This has resulted in a flood of subsidized US rice and Asian rice repackaged in Florida, to dominate the Haitian market place. This has had two perverse effects in Haiti: it has drastically increased the place of imported rice in average Haitian diets (at the expense of more balanced and varied traditional diets of food grown in Haiti), and it has made it quite difficult for Haitian rice farmers to compete with these imports and earn an adequate living growing rice. All this in the poorest country in this hemisphere, plagued with extremely high unemployment, and recently further destabilized by a massive earth quake in the capital city, by a deadly outbreak of cholera, and political instability. Can Oxfam America and other partners address the complex policy issues in this sector and sensibly invest in improving the productivity and competitiveness of Haitian-produced rice? Please join us after church on September 11th at 11:50 in the board room to see pictures, listen and discuss. Are you enjoying your UUCE Ethical Eating Resource Guide? WHAT? You haven't picked it up yet? You can find them on the PASA table in the community room so please help yourself. When the numbers get low, we will print the second edition with some new additions!

Karen Volckhausen
PASA Chair

[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.]

Coffee and Cleanup

As always, there is space on the coffee and cleanup sign up sheet in the kitchen. Bill is available to check you out on the routine and the simple workings of the dishwasher. If you want to be checked out on the routine, make arrangements to meet Bill Clark before an upcoming service.

Three important things you need to know -

1. If you sign up, YOU ARE NEITHER REQUIRED NOR ASKED TO BRING FOOD, COFFEE, OR HALF-AND-HALF. Food that shows up for coffee hour is provided by members of the congregation who decided on their own to be good to the rest of us. Coffee and half-and-half are provided by UUCE.
2. THIS IS IMPORTANT - If you sign up, get someone else to sign up with you. If two people are setting up, making coffee, and cleaning up afterwards, the job is four times easier.
3. DO NOT sign up for the first Sunday of the month. This is always potluck Sunday and the potluck crew take care of everything.

Thank you, Bill

Potluck Dinners for the coming Church Year

First of all I want to thank all who helped with setting up and cleaning up after last season's Potlucks, especially Matt Slater who always came early and set up the food tables.

I'd like to explain the basics of what needs to be done:

Each month's Potluck set up crew should be at church about 9:45 AM to set up 3 tables with table cloths, if not done by Matt.

Then turn on the 2 ovens in the kitchen stove as well as the over head fan. One oven should be low about 200 * the other moderate 350*.

Place all food as it is brought in, that needs refrigeration, in the frig and any food needing to be warmed or cooked in the appropriate oven.

Dinner plates, cutlery, and napkins should be placed at the near end of the serving tables.

Several hot mats, for hot dishes, and serving utensils for the dishes should also be brought out before the Service.

Prepare drinks: coffee, hot water for tea, cold drinks if available and set the necessary tea choices, sugar, sweetener on the drinks table with some teaspoons in a cup and a napkin for used spoons.

The set up crew should leave the service before the last hymn in order to get the food out to the tables. This should be much easier with the new utility cart.

The clean up crew when done eating, set the utility cart in front of the kitchen island or off to the side so not to interrupt traffic. On top the cart should have a basin of warm soapy water for cutlery, a waste receptacle for plate scrapings and room to stack plates and cups. On the second shelf a basket for used napkins.

Please everyone bring up your own cups and dishes and select one person to do so if in a meeting.

Start the dishwasher as directed on the wall. Fill the trays and run as needed. Remember to have a thick bath towel (bottom drawer by the stove) at the stove end of the island to catch the water coming off the clean dishes. These trays will be HOT and HEAVY.

There will be little need to dry the dishes and cups as their heat will dry them. Please be sure you use a clean towel if needed and stack the dishes in the appropriate cupboard (See labels).

One person should periodically go and check the food table for empty dishes and bring them to the kitchen also for cups and dishes left on tables.

When all the tables are cleared they need to be wiped down with a sponge.

The coffee pot and hot water pot need to be cleaned and the coffee/tea things returned to the kitchen.

The dishes and containers brought in can be placed on a near by table to be picked up by the bringer.

All surfaces in the kitchen should be wiped clean. Any left over food sent home.

The 3 tables set up in the RE wing need to be taken down and stored away. They are heavy, please ask for some strong help if you can't manage.

That about covers it. You can see why I think we need at least 2 persons for set up and 3-4 for clean up. It is hard work if there are not that many. It also means those that sign up have to do both set up and clean up. Working with others is a great chance to get to know them better and to strengthen our church.

We all look forward to the potluck dinners when we can visit with our fellow UU's, so please sign up and help with set up and clean up. It is only a one time commitment! Just as a suggestion, Small groups, youth group or other committees could sign up together

In fellowship,

Carol Mathiesen

From the Board

Due to the schedule change for the August board meeting from the second to the third week, there will be no board report for that meeting until the October issue of the NUUS. We will resume our regular board meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 6 PM in September. Congregation members are welcome to attend and the first 15 minutes of the meeting is always reserved for congregational comment.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Volckhausen

Secretary



Treasurer's Corner

There is a lot to report this month. Total income for June 2011 was \$3,951.00. Expenses for the same period were \$17,302.72. June is the most expensive month of the church year. The additional costs were covered by budgeting throughout the church year.

We closed the books for the 2010 - 2011 church year and, as projected, it ended on a positive note. Total income for the church year ended at \$94,184.59 or 4.64% above the budget goal of \$90,000.

Pledge income came in at \$70,127 - only \$2,783 or 3.81% below the budget figure of \$73,000.

Total expenses ended at \$83,340.84 - \$6,659.84 below the budget figure of \$90,000.00. With the \$4,184.59 in additional income, we ended the church year with a \$10,843.59 balance. We also collected \$2,829 in additional income providing us with \$13,672 in cash reserve to start the new church year. This is the soundest financial position we have been in for several years.

Total income for July was \$18,684. This figure includes \$8,980 in prepaid pledges and \$2,134 in income from the Lobster Bake. Total expenses for the same period were only \$3,249. July figures for expenses do not include cost for ministry. Sara did not begin her ministry officially until August. We will not begin to compensate Ann Ossanna for coordinating the Religious Education program until September.

Fifty five individuals attended the 2nd Annual Lobster Bake. Total income from the event was \$3,100, netting an income of \$2,134 for the church after expenses. This was a great way to start the new church year. We have raised 30.36% of our budget goal for fund raising of \$7,000.

We will have to manage our finances carefully this year. Our expenses are budgeted at \$28,135 more than last year and we budgeted only \$5,000 in shortfall. The cash reserve is planned to cover any shortfall over \$5,000. I'm sure there may be questions. Please do not hesitate to call me. We're off to a good start. Let's continue to keep it going.

-Don Martin, UUCE Treasurer

Personnel

Contact Information

Minister

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

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

Caitlin Tunney: 667-4393
caitlin@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

By laws: John Fink

Coffee Hour: Bill Clark

Caring Committee: Suzanne Forest

Choir: Marta Rieman & Haydee Foreman

Coffee: Bill and Sue Clark

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

Lobster Bake: Bettie Massie

Membership: Evelyn Foster & 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

Swap Shop: Nancy Avila

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

September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 12:00 Al-Anon	2 6:00 AA	3
4 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Potluck	5	6 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	7 4:00 Beth Israel RE 6:30 Coyote Group	8 12:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Board Meeting	9 6:00 AA	10 9:30 Landscape planting
11 10:30 a.m. Worship Service HUNGRY SUNDAY 11:50 PASA/Adult RE: David Wilcock	12	13 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	14 4:00 Beth Israel RE 6:30 Coyote Group	15 12:00 Al-Anon 12:00 Book group 6:00 Downeast Audubon	16 6:00 AA	17
18 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:50 Adult RE: The Apostle Paul	19	20 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	21 4:00 Beth Israel RE 6:30 Coyote Group 5:00 GLSEN	22 12:00 Al-Anon	23 6:00 AA	24
25 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 11:50 Adult RE: Local/Int'l Sustainability	26	27 10:00 PATT playgroup 12:00 Al-Anon	28 4:00 Beth Israel RE 6:30 Coyote Group	29 12:00 Al-Anon 12:00 Book group	30 5:30 Ministerial Start Up	

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. 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

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The NUUS

September 2011

The NUUS

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth

September, 2011

Vol. 43, No. 9

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.**

