



# The NUUS

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

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June 2014

## A Month of Sundays in June

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

**Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**      *"Camp Redemption"*      GUEST WORSHIP LEADER: W. Zach Griffith  
**POTLUCK**      Robin Lovrien & Karen Wigglesworth, Worship Associates

The story of soldiers from the Maine National Guard who brought humanity to Abu Ghraib, survived a war and loved the "enemy".

W. Zach Griffith is a humanist who grew up in the congregation at the Rockland UU and served as a photojournalist in the United States Marine Corps for eight years.

**Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>**      *"Woyaya"*      Worship is lead by the Religious Education Youth  
**HUNGRY SUNDAY**

This Multi-Generational service will celebrate the Youth Religious Education offerings at UUCE. Graduating Sr. Youth Group Members will be acknowledged; Jr. Youth Group members will perform a short play and our younger groups will each share a song they have learned.

**Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>**      Flower Communion: *A Ray of Beauty*      Rev. Sara Huisjen, Worship  
Leader

Kay Wilkins, Worship Associate

Drawing from the Unitarian tradition of Norbert Capek of Prague, we will celebrate the unique beauty of every person with our annual Flower Communion Service this Sunday. Please bring a flower to share and exchange with another person.

**Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>**      *"Judaism as an Ever-Evolving Religion"*  
GUEST WORSHIP LEADER: Rabbi Darah Lerner  
Stephen Berger, Worship Associate

How and why Judaism continuously changes itself to be itself.

Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> continues:

Rabbi Darrah serves the Congregation Beth El in Bangor Maine. She is a second career rabbi having worked in small business management and for technology transfer companies before entering the rabbinate. Rabbi Lerner has a BA from UC Berkeley in Political Science with an emphasis on European Diplomatic History. She wrote her rabbinic thesis on King David. Rabbi Lerner has taught at Bangor Theological Seminary and The University of Maine, Orono. She is a popular guest preacher and lectures on Jewish values and diverse ethical issues. She currently serves as Vice President of RCAD- the Religious Coalition Against Discrimination.

**Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>** “What Non-Natives should know about Native Culture (especially Wabanaki)”

**PLATE SPLIT w/ Birdsacre**

GUEST WORSHIP LEADER: George Neptune

Bob Dickens, Worship Associate

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## Ministry Matters

by Rev. Sara Huisjen

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There are times when saying *THANK YOU* seems woefully inadequate.

This is one of those times. And yet that’s exactly what I feel called to say.

*Thank you:* to every member and friend of our congregation who contributed to this year’s inspiringly successful stewardship campaign! As of this moment, you helped raise just shy of \$109,000 in pledge income and added 19 pledging units to the grand tally of UUCE’s current financial supporters. This represents an increase of over \$10,000 from last year’s campaign results. This success (and the congregation’s vote on 5/18) has made it possible to transition our Religious Education Coordinator’s stipend to a salary that falls within the recommended UUA Guidelines for compensation in our area, and beginning in July, I will gladly have the opportunity to serve UUCE as your full-time minister.

*My cup runneth over...*

And so, I will say it again:

*Thank you:* to our incredible Stewardship Committee—Don Martin (Chair), Stefanie Alley, Evelyn Foster, Robin Lovrien, Peggy Strong & Kay Wilkins—for their collaborative & creative genius, and for the many, many hours they spent working together to organize and plan for the ten Stewardship Cottage Meetings that occurred over the course of two weeks. It was my honor & pleasure to be at each of these meetings.

*Thank you:* to our skillful meeting facilitators, Diana Cate, Jim Fisher and David Wilcock among them, too.

*Thank you:* to the lovely hosts who graciously welcomed people into their homes, Wayne Smith & CJ Levertu, Stephen Berger & Nancy Avila, Don & Jean Martin, Linda Laing, Tom Martin & Susan Hughes, Vicki Fox, Bill & Sue Clark, Marjorie Forbes & Haydee Foreman.

*Thank you:* to every single person—past and present, near and far away—who has cared enough (and cares enough *still*) about our Unitarian Universalist faith to nurture and support our congregation in the myriad ways you do. We are a stronger, more vibrant community because of you.

I'm more grateful than I can possibly say to be serving as minister with *you*.

This past year has been transformative, humbling and encouraging in ways that are helping me become a better, more focused, determined & capable minister. It is an honor to walk with you. I am grateful for your support & continued confidence in my leadership. I look forward to all that is yet to come.

I hope to see you at church on Sunday mornings and at many of the exciting events, classes, social gatherings, fundraising and volunteer opportunities that will happen at UUCE this summer. For more specific information about these opportunities, please keep reading this month's NUUS, and keep an eye out for weekly email notices.

With gratitude & deepest appreciation,  
Yours, in ministry together,

*Sara*




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## From the UUCE Board

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### **Board Meeting: May 15, 2014**

**Present:** David Wilcock, President; John Fink, Vice President; Karen Volckhausen, Treasurer; Don Martin, Secretary; Trustees- Peggy Strong, Evelyn Foster, Eileen Brennan; RE Coordinator, Anne Ossanna; Reverend Sara Huisjen

Congregation: Bob Dickens

**Congregational comment:**

Bob Dickens is here tonight from RE to make 2 proposals. Avery was selected to be Junior Trustee on the Board but does not meet the criteria. He proposed that the Board creates an invited young person category as a Board position. He also recommended that we establish a Youth/Adult Committee. This committee would have the function of meeting 3 or 4 times a year, discussing issues, making proposals to the RE committee and/or Board.. It would be composed of 2 youth, 2 adults, and the senior youth advisor who would not have a vote.

**Motion made and seconded to invite Avery to be an invited young person to attend Board meetings for a test period of 6 months with option to extend. She will be invited to speak but have no vote. Motion carried.**

The Board endorsed the idea of a Youth/Adult Committee as a subcommittee of the RE Committee.

**For Minister's, RE Coordinator's, and Minister's report, see elsewhere in this issue of the NUUS. Subcommittee to evaluate Sara and Anne**

A subcommittee consisting of John as Chair, Eileen, and possibly a new Board member was formed. Sara suggests that Committee build a process for annual evaluations. She feels that a yearly evaluation is very helpful even as a called minister.

**Agenda for the Congregational meeting**

The agenda was reviewed and modified.

**Finalizing proposed budget**

The budget was reviewed and adjusted.

We will work on increasing our contribution to UUA for the next stewardship campaign

**Planning for the new Board**

John and Sara will work on next year's calendar by the end of the month.

Date for the Board retreat- proposed June 12 9-3 PM at Evelyn's house

**Planning for GA**

Fourteen people are planning to attend from UUCE. A meeting date for participants will be announced.

*The preceding is a summary only of the board meeting. To review the full minutes, contact Alison Stephens, church administrator or check the bulletin board in the Community Room.*

*There will be no Board meeting in June. The next scheduled Board meeting is Thursday, July 10 at 6 PM in the Community Room. The first 15 minutes is reserved for congregational comment. All are welcome*

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## UUCE ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS –May 18, 2014

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### State of the Congregation, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 (Distributed at the recent Annual Congregational Meeting)

#### Report from the President of the Board of Trustees

I have been president of the Board for almost a year. The Board felt that it would be a good idea for me to report to the congregation, at the time of the 2014 annual meeting, on my views on the State of the Congregation. This I am happy to do. I will summarize where I feel we stand in terms of the evolution of our congregational membership, the work of our minister and our volunteer committees, our financial position, the religious education of our children, and our social actions and financial giving to our larger community.

**Membership:** Our overall membership has grown during the past year with 9 new members signing the book and quite a few “waiting in the wings” to join. Indicative of this growth is the fact that we had 16 new pledging units (some friends of UUCE at this time) in this year's stewardship canvass.

**The Labors of Sara:** I join all the other board members in thanking our lucky stars that we have Reverend Sara Huisjen as our Minister. Before she makes the anticipated official transition from three quarter time to full time status as a “called minister”, hopefully early in the new fiscal year, she is already serving us extremely capably on what must be considered a full time basis. Her sermons keep getting more and more powerful, polished, and meaningful to all of us. Her devotion to pastoral care

is truly remarkable and the leadership she is demonstrating on the social action front, such as the upcoming youth service trip to Guatemala in July, is inspiring. She has faced a difficult situation in her service to one of our congregational families this year with candor, honesty, and compassion. The Board feels unanimously that this has strengthened her ministry. We look forward to Sara becoming a “called minister” at an early date in the coming year. (See Reverend Sara’s report below).

**Committees:** Our volunteer-led committees continue to play a critical role in keeping UUCE in operation, the building looking great, and allowing us to do so much more with our limited annual budget. On behalf of the Board I would like to thank all members who have served on committees (often multiple ones) over the past year. Special thanks go to the Stewardship Committee for a very successful pledge canvass recently completed, to the Aesthetics Committee for continual improvements to the appearance of our building, and the RE Committee, now reconstituted and doing great work.

**Our Financial Position:** As our Treasurer Don Martin points out in his monthly reports to the Board and to the congregation in the NUUS (sent out by e-mail attachment. Speak to our administrator, Alison Stephens, if you are not on the distribution list), we have been doing well with our cumulative income exceeding our expenses by a comfortable margin so far this year. This has been helped substantially by some extra financial gifts and extra rental income from the YMCA, and by increased income from fundraising efforts. Things continue to look good for the coming 2014-15 fiscal year due to pledges totaling \$106,000! This great result has helped us meet our Stewardship goals in a balanced budget for 2014-15. Most importantly this will allow us to employ Rev. Sara full time and substantially increase the quarter-time salary paid to Anne Ossanna as RE Coordinator. In addition, the Board has approved Anne moving from “contractor status” to a part time salaried position as of July 1 with UUCE paying her FICA contribution. Finally, we plan to launch a planned giving and estate planning program in the coming fiscal year in order to do what we can to boost our endowment fund at the Maine Community Foundation.

**Religious education for Children:** We have seen a remarkable growth in RE attendance and program enthusiasm over the past year. A number of new RE teachers have worked very hard with the Coordinator on programs that are attracting new children and their parents to the church. We are all excited to see this happen since it bodes well for the future of the church. Congratulations to the new RE volunteers, the Coordinator, and to the RE Committee. (See Anne’s report below).

**Programs for Adults:** Both the Adult RE and the Peace and Social Action (PASA) Committees have been offering a good number of stimulating programs for adults during the past year. We hope that our offerings will continue to increase in the coming year with some new efforts that may be conducted in association with other churches in Ellsworth.

**Social Action and Giving to the larger community:** Being a UU means being concerned about what is happening in our larger world. Two examples: UUCE, as part of the Maine UU State Action

Network (MUUSAN) actively fought for the expansion of healthcare coverage by Maine Care (Medicaid). Anne Funderburk organized two important services on the problems faced by our Wabenacki neighbors in Maine. In addition other local, state, and national issues have been the subject of our programs. Upcoming is a major service project for 17 UU youth from three congregations in Guatemala City with Safe Passages.

Finally UUCE gives its hard-won treasure generously to local charities. At last year's annual meeting we voted to provide money from part of our fund-raising efforts to Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry (40 % recipient, a UUCE commitment in addition to the volunteer labor we provide in August), and 20 % each to the Ellsworth Area Ministers' Discretionary Fund, THAW (a heating fund), and Sustainable Harvest International (SHI). In addition, smaller amounts from our quarterly plate splits have gone to Fresh Food for Farm Workers, and to Child and Family Opportunities, the Beth C. Wright Cancer Resource Center, and Birdsacre-Stanwood Wildlife Sanctuary, all in Ellsworth. All in all it has been a good year and the UUCE congregation is doing well. Thank you for allowing me to serve you as president of the Board. If you have any questions, complaints, or other concerns, I urge you to contact me by phone (963-2850 or email me at [davidwilcock68@gmail.com](mailto:davidwilcock68@gmail.com)).

Respectfully submitted,

David Wilcock, President of the Board

### **Minister's Annual Report, Reverend Sara Huisjen**

Looking back, it's clear this has been a year of significant growth and transformation at UUCE. In several areas of church life, new and/or renewed initiatives are being undertaken to strengthen our program offerings & shared ministry together.

Our **Religious Education** offerings for children, youth & families have grown, evidenced in part by the increased number of children regularly participating in our Sunday morning R.E. Program. Several new and successful Multi-Generational Events & Programs were launched this year, thanks to the efforts of our Anne Ossanna, our R.E. Coordinator, and the talented leadership of a newly re-constituted R.E. Committee with Lisa Whittemore serving as Chair. These offerings have included a first *Potluck Dinner & Game Night*, a *"Tween" Overnight Conference* with 18 children from 4 different UU churches attending, and plans well underway for an *All-Church Retreat at Ferry Beach* in Saco, ME in October. Thank you to everyone – our R.E. Coordinator, teachers, volunteers, parents & families – who are invested in creating vibrant Religious Education program offerings for our children & youth. We are growing more and more into an intentional multi-generational faith community.

Several members of UUCE's Care Committee are working with me to create & launch a new **Pastoral Visitors Team** which will be comprised of trained congregants who are available to visit members &

friends of the congregation requesting such support. This new program will strengthen our caring ministry and allow us reach out more regularly to people in need.

A new **Small Group Ministry Core Leadership Team** has recently been formed to help support & strengthen our Small Group Ministry Program Offerings. Cynthia Perkins has agreed to become our first *Small Group Ministry Coordinator*. As such, she will be working with me & the SGM Core Leadership Team to help create clear channels of communication & coordination for people interested in joining existing small group ministry circles or creating new ones. We anticipate a few new SGM offerings will be created in the year to come.

Since October 2013, *nine adults have joined the Membership* at UUCE, with a handful of others likely to sign the Membership Book within the next couple months.

From July 12-23rd, 17 UU Youth, including two of our senior youth and I, will participate in a **Service Project/Mission Trip** to Guatemala City where we'll volunteer with *Safe Passage*. Over the course of the last two years, participating youth have been meeting regularly and working hard to fundraise the money they needed and to learn about Guatemala. Thank you for your support in helping to make this spiritual pilgrimage possible. Please plan to be at worship at UUCE on Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> when the youth will share some of what this experience has meant to them.

This year, increased numbers of congregants have participated in **Northern New England (NNE) District-sponsored workshops & trainings**. 6 folks (including me) attended a *SHARED MINISTRY Workshop* in Augusta in March. In early May, 5 people (including me), attended a *Small Group Ministry Workshop* in Bangor, the end result of which is the creation of a SGM Core Leadership Team to support & strengthen our SGM offerings at UUCE. At present, 14 people are registered to attend this year's annual *General Assembly* of the UUA in Providence, RI, June 25-29<sup>th</sup>. I look forward to seeing the ways in which peoples' attendance at G.A. will bring back a sense of vitality, imagination and purposeful interest in strengthening our social justice engagements beyond our congregation.

This past year, I enjoyed leading two Adult Religious Education Classes, *The Artist's Way* and more recently, *Building Your Own Theology*. In the year to come, I plan to facilitate adult religious education classes on a quarterly basis that will encourage peoples' engagement together in personal & spiritual growth. I love this part of ministry!

As the end of this church year quickly approaches, please know I continue to feel grateful for the opportunity to serve UUCE as minister. August 15<sup>th</sup> marks my three-year anniversary as your  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, contract minister. I look forward to all I anticipate that is yet to come.

Thank you for your continued trust & confidence in my leadership & ministry, and our *shared* ministry together. Respectfully submitted, Rev. Sara Huisjen

## Religious Education Annual Report

It has been a productive and busy year for the Youth Religious Education offerings at UUCE. We began the year with Hogwarts Downeast, a summer program adapted for UUCE which explores the 7 UU principles through the first 3 books of the Harry Potter series. The children enjoyed the program and we had 8 teachers and 3 Sr. Youth Group members volunteer throughout the summer.

We added a new class in October when our formal RE offerings began. Each Sunday 3 classes and the nursery were available for the 30 children enrolled in RE. Our average weekly attendance since October has been 13.50. Our Senior Youth Group met monthly with an average attendance of 3. We have had 12 volunteer teachers for the 4 classes and nursery this year.

We have had 5 Family and Friends Gatherings to date this year. We recently had our first Potluck and Game Night which was well attended by 40 members of the congregation from ages 3 to 80's. Our next Family and Friends Gathering will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

As your RE Coordinator, I continued to attend the quarterly DRE Cluster meetings and partnered with the DRE's from Bangor, Belfast, Castine and Rockland UU congregations to organize a Tween Overnight Gathering that UUCE hosted earlier this month. 19 tweens, 6 parent chaperones, 3 Religious Educators, 2 UUCE RE Committee members and Rev. Sara participated in this conference which focused on building CommUUnity. We look forward to future regional gatherings with this age group in the upcoming year and partnering in service projects as they enter into the teen years.

This summer two members of the Senior Youth Group and Rev. Sara will be traveling to Guatemala with teens and adults from the Belfast and Bangor UU congregations. UUCE supported several events this past year to raise funds for the service trip.

The RE Committee was restructured this year and has strong leadership. They are actively working on curriculum review and teacher recruitment and training for the upcoming year. 3 members of the RE Committee and myself will be attending GA this summer. Additionally 2 members of the RE Committee and myself are part of the Steering Committee planning our first Multigenerational Retreat at Ferry Beach in October.

We will again offer Hogwarts Downeast this summer for children ages 5-12. Our toddlers will have a program this summer as well that will focus on our 7<sup>th</sup> Principle. With strong RE Committee leadership and support, we anticipate continued growth and will offer an additional class next year for a total of 5 classes plus the nursery. The RE Committee and myself are committed to work on a Coming of Age Program and Our Whole Lives next year with implementation of these programs in 2015. As your RE Coordinator I will continue my professional development and the process to become a Credentialed Religious Educator. I thank you for your support; it is an honor to serve this congregation as your Religious Education Coordinator. Respectfully, Anne N. Ossanna

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## Lifespan Religious Education

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The Adult RE Committee met on April 25 and **Current and Planned Offerings** include:

- **UU History**, making use of UUA DVD's. Under the leadership of Robin Lovrien and Mary Haynes, this group meets Thursday evenings at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary, for five weeks beginning May 29.
- **Discovering Your Creativity Through Expressive Arts** A Workshop for Women of all ages! **Begins Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup> 3:30-6:00** Come discover the power of your creativity in a safe, supportive circle of women. I am offering 2 sessions of 5 weeks each. Sign up for the 1<sup>st</sup> session, beginning **Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>** and/or the 2nd, beginning **Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>**, to be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth. Your only "fee" is a commitment to attend as many of the five sessions as is possible...and that will be a fee well spent! **Give it a try!!!** Please call **469-3645** for more information or to register. **Amy Thompson M.S.W.** Expressive Arts Facilitator
- **Yoga** – the Yoga group, led by Karen Cove, is off and running, Wednesday nights from 6-7:30 in the sanctuary. If you have any questions or wish to participate, please contact Cynthia Perkins (422-6263; csp41@myfairpoint.net).
- **Six week Permaculture Study Group:** What is Permaculture? Is it a gardening system? A revolutionary philosophy? A cult? What are the basic principles and ideas? Where did it come from? How well does it work? Where are there examples of it working?  
Dan Huisjen is putting together a six week Permaculture Study Group. There's a lot to cover, and he is under no illusion that he'll cover it all. He hopes to get people started talking, and acting, on the ideas of permaculture. Ideally, he thinks this should turn into Permaculture Small Group Ministries, with people working through the concepts in their own towns, with their neighbors, on site and looking at their own gardens and homes, with occasional larger interactions. But this is a start.

### Topics to be discussed include :

three core ethical principles of Permaculture (Earth Care, Self Care, Fair Share) the twelve design principles, annual versus perennial crops, soils, water, "plant guilds", vertical layering, working from ecological models, and who knows what else.

Dan is a long time gardener, once was a certified organic farmer, and went through the Master Gardener training in Oregon, long ago. He teaches MOFGA's yearly Grow Your Own Organic Garden course each year in Blue Hill. The plan is to start the first week in July, dates forthcoming.

- **Hikes** – Rev. Sara will do a "hiking thing" after church. (described later in this newsletter)
- **The League of Women Voters** is reading Thomas Piketty's *Capital in the Twenty-first Century*. "For our first meeting, we'll discuss the Introduction and Part One. That's **Wednesday, June 25, at 5:30 p.m. at**

the home of Ann Luther in Trenton. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Call 460-9587 to RSVP and for directions." (Thanks to Martha Dickinson for this information) And yes, it's open to men, too.

- **Matthew Fox Book Discussion group:** led by Martha Dickinson, this group will begin in the fall reading Fox' *Original Blessings*, a fascinating argument that Christian theology is mistaken to focus on original sin, where it should focus on original blessings, in Fox' view. Interested? Get a copy and start reading!

We have a full and varied calendar of activities and topics, come join the discussions.

*Stephen Berger*



## Hiking & Visiting Together on Sunday Afternoons

Four Sundays: June 15<sup>th</sup>, July 6<sup>th</sup>, August 24<sup>th</sup> and September 14<sup>th</sup>

Leave from UUCE at Noon

"The trees and stones will teach you what you never learn from the masters." Bernard of Clairvaux

"Life consists with wildness. The most alive is the wildest.

Not yet subdued to man, its presence refreshes him." Henry David Thoreau, *Walking*

We live in a beautiful place. This is the season to take it in and enjoy it!

All are invited to join Rev. Sara and embark on a few Sunday afternoon adventures, hiking and walking and visiting together in beautiful places in Hancock County.

Folks will leave UUCE at 12:00pm and head to the destination.

Those able & wanting to hike will do so together,

while others preferring *not* hike can visit and enjoy the scenery.

For more information (or to make plans to meet us at the respective sites)

contact Rev. Sara at [sara@uuellworth.org](mailto:sara@uuellworth.org) or leave a message at UUCE for her (667-4393).

Bring good shoes, water, snacks or picnic stuff if you like!

### Five Sundays:

June 15<sup>th</sup> - Schoodic Mountain & Tunk Lake, Sullivan

July 6<sup>th</sup> - Blue Hill Mountain, Blue Hill

August 24<sup>th</sup> - Manset Mountain, Southwest Harbor

September 14<sup>th</sup> - Sand Beach & Great Head, Park Loop Rd. in Acadia National Park

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## Religious Education

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Spring Greetings from the Carl Stehman Wing! May has been a very busy month for the children, parents and teachers. We began the month with 19 tweens from the Bangor, Castine, Ellsworth and Rockland UU congregations for an Overnight Gathering at UUCE. The theme of the Gathering was CommUUnity and the tweens had a fantastic time. Many thanks to: Emma, Maria and Chris Burdette for the delicious pancake and sausage breakfast; Lisa Whittemore and Cecily Judd for helping with an art project; and Denise Lavoie Sawyer and Nate Hanson for chaperoning the event.

We also had a well attended Family and Friends Potluck and Game Night in May. 19 people from ages 3 to 70's enjoyed delicious food and fun games. Thank you to everyone attended.

Sunday mornings were very active with 3 classes offered each week. Our weekly average attendance in May was 12. We are winding down the church school year and hope all will attend out RE Service on June 8th. Hogwarts Downeast will begin on July 5th for children ages 5-12. Many thanks to the following members who taught RE in May: Jody Murphy; Kim LaPlant; Lisa Whittemore; Cecily Judd; Bob Dickens; and Rev. Sara

### CALENDAR:

- June 1<sup>st</sup>: Peace and Justice with Kim LaPlant and Lisa Whittemore; Potluck; Registration for Fall UUCE Multigenerational Retreat at Ferry Beach.
- June 8<sup>th</sup>: RE Led Service, all children remain in the sanctuary; Registration for Fall UUCE Multigenerational Retreat at Ferry Beach; RE Committee meeting.
- June 15<sup>th</sup>: Flower Communion Multigenerational Service; Registration for Fall UUCE Multigenerational Retreat at Ferry Beach.
- June 22<sup>nd</sup>: RE End of Year Party; Registration for Fall UUCE Multigenerational Retreat at Ferry Beach.
- June 29<sup>th</sup>: General Assembly (there will be a planned structured activity for children during worship service).

**SAVE THE DATE!** August 9<sup>th</sup> **LOBSTER BAKE**



### UUCE FERRY BEACH MULTI-GENERATIONAL RETREAT: Oct. 17-19, 2014

It's time to plan for what promises to be a fun-filled, relaxing time. All UUCE members and friends are invited (and encouraged) to attend the first annual UUCE Ferry Beach multi-generational retreat in Saco, Maine. The retreat is a time to have a weekend away in a safe summer camp setting, right on the beach with our UUCE community.

There are a limited number of rooms. Camping is available. Registration will be the first four Sundays in June, following the church service. In order to secure your place, a \$25 deposit is due at registration. There will be some scholarship money available.

Prices include all meals, Saturday (breakfast, lunch, dinner) through Sunday lunch (breakfast and lunch). Campers should add the meal prices. (See below.) Dorm-style rooms of 3 to 4 people. Shared bathrooms. See committee for details.

Adults 18+ room and meals \$150 each (total)  
 Teens 13-17 room and meals \$100 each (total)  
 Children 5-12 room and meals \$75 each (total)  
 Children under 5 free!

Campsites (Max of 5 persons per site) \$32 per site for the weekend. (Meals extra - see list.)

Meal plan (under 5 years of age eat for free)  
 Age 13+ at \$60.25 each (for the weekend - 5 meals)  
 Age 5-12 at \$38.25 each (for the weekend - 5 meals)

See Anne Ossanna, Jude Lamb, Evelyn Foster or Eileen Brennan for more details. Images of Ferry Beach may be seen at [www.ferrybeach.org](http://www.ferrybeach.org)

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## Stewardship Report

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The 2014-2015 Stewardship Campaign ended with a remarkable success. We raised \$108,895 in pledges which is \$17,542 more than we raised last year. We all can be proud of what we have accomplished. Now we can move in the direction of full time ministry under the guidance of a caring and thoughtful strong leader, Rev. Sara Huisjen.

We had 21 more pledging units over last year. The Stewardship Cottage Meetings were well attended and received by the congregation. This past church year has been exciting with a Religious Education program that is growing rapidly and adult activities that are keeping all of us involved.

The Stewardship Committee thanks you all for your participation and support. Let's keep everything moving forward.

Stewardship Committee Members: Evelyn Foster, Stefanie Alley, Robin Lovrien, Peggy Strong, Kay Wilkins, and Don Martin. Special thanks also to our minister, Rev. Sarah Huisjen.




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## Treasurer's Corner

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June is the last month of the 2013 – 2014 church year. If you need to know what you owe on your pledge, please contact Alison at the church office or me any time. We will not be closing the church books until July 15<sup>th</sup>, giving you an extra two weeks to complete your pledge if you have not done so already. It is important that you make every effort to pay your pledge in full so that we can complete the church year in a positive financial position. We operate the church on a "balance budget", which means that we need our income to balance with our expenses. Please do what you can to complete your pledge by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

The figures below represent the last month completed before this newsletter is published.

**Total income** for April 2014 was \$8,237.23. This was \$7,369.27 less than the total expenses for the month which was \$15,606.50. Total income through April is \$122,904.22, 84.03% of budget which is 1.03% more than the year-to-date percentage of 83%.

**Total expenses** for the same period was \$106,305.24, 73.27% of budget which is 9.73% less than the year-to-date of 83%.

**Pledge income** for April was \$4,624. Total pledges through April was \$74,170.18 or 81.19% of budget which is 1.81% less than the year-to-date figure of 83%.

**Plate income** for April was \$1,275.00. Total plate income through April was \$7,687.26 or 96.09% of budget which is 13.09% more than the year-to-date figure of 83%, this is excellent.

**Plate income-church** through April was \$6,138.93 or 93.01% of budget.

**Plate income-Plate split charity** through April was \$1,548.33 or 110.06% of budget, this is good.



**Fundraising** through April is at \$14,045.60 or 93.64% of the budgeted amount of \$15,000.00. The Dinner/Dance fundraiser in April was a success having raised \$1,362.62. This is great!

**Rental Income** for the month was \$1,651.00 for a total through April of \$15,302.00 or 85.73% of budget. Rental income other through April was \$5,302.00 or 96.4% of budget, this is good. **Comments:** For the third month in a row, total income for the month has run less than expenses for the month

*Don Martin*, Treasurer

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## The News from the Peace and Social Action Committee

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PASA would like to thank all the folks who participated in the Topic Table Fair on May 25. We appreciate your interest and excitement and will take it with us to GA. You will hear more about these issues in the fall. Stay tuned!

PASA is taking the summer off. Our next meeting will be Sunday, September 21 at 9 AM in the Tidewater Room. We are always looking for new members to join the Committee and help us fulfill our mission which is:

**To coordinate and support the congregation in its efforts to advocate, educate, organize, serve and witness for peace and social justice; to establish our church as a beacon for social action in our community. As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant to work for a democratic, peaceful, equitable and earth-friendly world. The Peace and Social Action Program is committed to empowering church members to keep this covenant.**

We invite you to come join us. See you in the fall!

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## Leadership Development Committee

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**Thank you, Haydee**

Haydee Foreman is stepping down as chair of the Music Committee. On behalf of the congregation, the Leadership Development Committee extends its thanks.

Good news! Haydee will continue being our creative, energetic, charismatic choir director, for which we are totally pleased and grateful.

**Music Committee**

The Music Committee will be reforming and will be looking for new members. Duties of the Committee include organizing a spring fundraiser event, taking care of the two pianos and our large collection of sheet music, and overseeing our choir director and our church music. We hope that the new Committee will maintain our fine church music programs and explore new directions that might be out there waiting.

**Bill Clark, Dartha Reid, Stefanie Alley**



**In July, there will be a "Let's Make Music Happen" meeting. If you enjoy music, have ideas to share, or just want to hear other ideas - plan to attend. If you are interested, please contact Dartha Reid.**

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## Small Group Ministry

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**Come and Blossom in a UUCE Small Group Ministry!**



You have probably heard of the UUCE Small Group Ministry (SGM) program. SGMs are circles of up to 10 members who meet at least once a month in a comfortable, tolerant, trusting environment to reflect together on life experiences and topics of shared interest, to listen without judgment, and to build connections with one another. The goals within each group are personal spiritual growth and strong bonds of friendship and support for each other; this in turn leads to a strengthening of our larger congregation and of our faith.

Our UUCE has a number of enthusiastic and enduring Small Group Ministries at present, and we hope to refresh some and add other new groups to serve our growing congregation. Currently, there are SGMs meeting biweekly or monthly in the Bar Harbor, Brooklin-Blue Hill, Ellsworth, North Ellsworth, and Hancock-Franklin-Sullivan areas. In an effort to expand and revitalize our SGM program at UUCE, we have now created an SGM Core Group that is working with Rev. Sara and leaders from the existing groups to compare practices and identify what makes these circles successful and satisfying, to train more facilitators, and to use what we learn to create new SGMs in our area that can provide the best possible experience for members looking to join.

If you're new to the UUCE congregation or a long-time member who would like an opportunity to connect more closely and to "let your light shine" in a small spiritual discussion group, here's your chance! In June we will be starting six-week introductory "Touchstone Circles." A trained facilitator will lead groups of 8-10 people interested in sharing thoughtful, in-depth discussion of ideas and experiences. At the end of six meetings, a new permanent Small Group Ministry can then form, with its own regular members, facilitator or facilitators, and schedule.

If you think you might like to join one of these Touchstone Circles to see what it's all about, or if you already know and would like to ask about joining an established group in your area, please contact Cynthia Perkins ([csp41@myfairpoint.net](mailto:csp41@myfairpoint.net)) or Rev. Sara Huisjen ([sara@uuellsworth.org](mailto:sara@uuellsworth.org)).

## Touchstone Small Group Ministry Program

**Time:** 6 Thursday Evenings at UUCE, from 6-8pm

**Dates:** June 5, 12, July 3, 31, August 14, 28

**Facilitator:** Rev. Sara Huisjen

*Pre-Registration is required.*

Please call (667-4393) or email ([office@uuellsworth.org](mailto:office@uuellsworth.org)) to register.

8-12 people can to participate. Minimum of 6 people must be registered for this Summer Touchstone SGM Program to run.

Attendance at *all* sessions is strongly encouraged

Have you ever noticed someone interesting at coffee hour and wanted to have a real conversation? Have you taken a class with someone and wished you could get to know them and their beliefs better? This 6-week Touchstone SGM Program is a place to get closer to people you already know, and get acquainted with others y

Rev. Sara will facilitate these structured, 2-hour gatherings where people will have the chance to listen deeply to each other while exploring ideas and topics of interest. There's no homework, just an invitation to share in ways immediate, spontaneous and real.

For more information please contact Rev. Sara at 610-2872 or [sara@uuellsworth.org](mailto:sara@uuellsworth.org)

## Come Relax and Get Fit With Us!



The Adult Religious Education Committee is adding a yoga class to its current program offerings.

The class will be led by **Karen Dove**, a longtime physical fitness instructor. She is currently leading 2 adult and 2 senior fitness classes and 2 yoga classes in Sullivan. Yoga derives from Hindu practices which encourage meditation, stretching of muscles and overall fitness.

The classes meet from 6-7:30 pm each Wednesday. Weekly attendance is not required, Classes are for all ages, sexes and levels of yoga experience. No fee will be charged. There will be a container for donations for anyone who wishes to contribute. Mats will be available, or you may bring your own.

If you have questions, or wish to participate, please contact Cynthia Perkins (422-6263, [csp41@myfairpoint.net](mailto:csp41@myfairpoint.net)),

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## Asthetics Committee

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Hannaford Gift/Debit Card sales update:

The Aesthetics committee has sold in excess of \$115,000.00 worth of Hannaford Gift Cards since we began this fundraising effort in November of 2012. By the time you read this it will no doubt be close to \$120,000. (Five percent of this is \$6000!)

It has been fun and a slow, slow process—but **each time you purchase a \$200 gift card, our UU community receives \$10, free and clear.** We have paid off our loans to the UU and our anonymous benefactor. (\$2,000 was that debt.) We have a rolling inventory of approximately \$2,500 now, and we are in the black accumulating funds for our renovation and beautification projects.

Thus we now have approximately \$1,500 toward our goal of \$8 -\$10,000 for the renovations planned—in the foyer: new doors, lighting, tile and carpet, new chairs, a lamp, etc., and then on to the next area of need. Every little bit helps and we anticipate continuing as long as necessary. The alternative is a Capital Fundraising Campaign and with our current expenditures for storage remodeling and our desire to call Rev. Sara as a full-time Minister, there can be no Capital Campaign for renovations in the foreseeable future.

*Remember that these can be used exactly like a debit card at any Hannaford designated store, including Bayside in Milbridge and Tradewinds in Blue Hill. It costs you nothing extra and your groceries, pharmaceuticals, lottery tickets, liquor and garbage tags can be in the mix!*

*With your help and support we can do this! Thank you to all our ongoing faithful “customers” we thank you for what you do in your chosen efforts to help sustain our beloved UU.*

*Aesthetics Committee: Linda Laing, Evelyn Foster, Sally Littlefield, Vicki Fox, Nancy Avila and Margaret Thurston*



### Flowers for the Sanctuary Alter

Please consider donating Flowers for the Sanctuary Altar on occasion. There is a “Flower Sign-up Sheet” at the front table or on the Hannaford Sales Table every Sunday. in the weekly Sunday Bulletin. Please write your information on the sign-up sheet. You can also email or call the UUCE office the week before on Tuesday or early Wednesday and Alison will see that your donation is appropriately noted in the Bulletin. If you choose, your donation will be announced at the Sunday service and a notification will be placed



### Plate Split – April, May & June

This is the **final month** for us to split the Sunday with **Birdsacre-Stanwood Wildlife Sanctuary.**

Cordelia Stanwood's home was recently the target of arson, and has been badly damaged. Your donation is needed more than ever.

If you've ever visited the owls and other birds at the Sanctuary or got lost in contemplation at the pond, if your children have ever attended a presentation on owls by one of the Richmonds, or if your family has walked the trails on the grounds or stopped by the Fairy Throne, you will know what a treasure the Sanctuary is to everyone.

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## Primary Candidates' Forum on June 2

On Monday evening June 2nd at 7:00 P.M. at Ellsworth's City Hall, candidates competing for various offices in the upcoming June 10 primary election will participate in a public question and answer forum sponsored by the Community Union of Ellsworth & Hancock County.

Stephen Fay, Managing Editor of The Ellsworth American, will moderate the event. **Participants will include:** Ralph Chapman (incumbent) and David Guarente, competing for the Democratic nomination to represent Blue Hill, Brooklin, Brooksville, Castine, Sedgwick and Surry in Maine House District 133

Paul Cavanaugh and Matt Foster, vying for the Republican nomination for district attorney in District 7 (Hancock and Washington Counties)

Bill Entwistle and Steve Juskewitch, contesting the Democratic nomination for district attorney in District 7

For more information, contact Cindy Post at 460-1880.

## FARM SANCTUARY Presentation

by Gene Bauer, President & Co-Founder

**Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the UU Church of Ellsworth**

No Charge, though donations gratefully received to benefit the *Good Life Center*.

Gene's thoughtful and moving presentations set forth the great progress we have achieved by working together and address what each of us can do to help to create a more compassionate society.

Gene grounds his message not on accusations or judgments but on fact and research. He appeals to our better selves and explains how we can, and why we must, align our everyday actions with our own values and interests.

**PEACE RIDGE SANCTUARY**, located in Penobscot, Maine (founded in 2001) will follow up Gene's talk with a brief overview of the animal advocacy and rescue work they do right here in our own community and how you can help.

This presentation is being promoted by the Good Life Center (as part of the 2014 Nearing Lyceum Speaker Series), Peace Ridge Sanctuary, the Institute for Humane Education and the Unitarian Universalist Church. You will have a chance to meet with and ask questions of these groups.

For More Information, contact Doris Groves, Sweet Dog Farm, Brooksville, Maine  
email - [redzinnia5@yahoo.com](mailto:redzinnia5@yahoo.com), telephone: 207-326-8641

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## Personnel

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### Contact Information

<b>Minister</b> Rev. Sara Hayman Huisjen: 610-2872 (cell) <a href="mailto:sara@uuellsworth.org">sara@uuellsworth.org</a>	<b>Religious Education Coordinator</b> Anne Ossanna: 565-2057 <a href="mailto:anne@uuellsworth.org">anne@uuellsworth.org</a>
<b>Church Office</b> (T, W, Th, F, 1:00-5:00 P.M.) Alison Stephens: 667-4393 <a href="mailto:office@uuellsworth.org">office@uuellsworth.org</a>	<b>Music Director</b> Wayne Smith: 667-9482 <a href="mailto:wayne@mrlanguage.com">wayne@mrlanguage.com</a>
<b>President of the Board</b> David Wilcock: 963-2950 <a href="mailto:president@uuellsworth.org">president@uuellsworth.org</a>	<b>Newsletter Editor</b> Lance Funderburk: 276-3301 <a href="mailto:lfunderburk@roadrunner.com">lfunderburk@roadrunner.com</a> [Submit articles by the 15 <sup>th</sup> of each month]

### Board of Trustees

<b>President:</b> David Wilcock, <a href="mailto:davidwilcock68@gmail.com">davidwilcock68@gmail.com</a>	<b>Vice President:</b> John Fink
<b>Treasurer:</b> Don Martin	<b>Secretary:</b> Karen Volckhausen
<b>Trustee:</b> Eileen Brennan, to 2015	<b>Trustee:</b> Tom Martin to 2015
<b>Trustee:</b> open seat to 2014	<b>Trustee:</b> Stephen Berger to 2016
<b>Trustee:</b> Evelyn Foster 2016	<b>Trustee:</b> Peggy Strong to 2014

### Committee and Task Force Chairs

<b>Adult Education:</b> Stephen Berger	<b>Leadership Development:</b> Bill Clark
<b>Aesthetics:</b> Linda Laing	<b>Library:</b> Paul Reid
<b>Auction:</b> Peggy Strong	<b>Lobster Bake:</b> Anne Ossanna
<b>Fiscal Matters:</b> David Wilcock	<b>Membership:</b> Nancy Avila/Mardi Thompson-George
<b>Building Maintenance:</b> Don Martin	<b>Committee on Ministry:</b> Marta Rieman
<b>Coffee Hour:</b> C. J. Lavertu,	<b>Music:</b> Haydee Forman
<b>Caring Committee:</b> Stephanie Alley and Linda Barsanti	<b>Outdoor Chapel:</b> <a href="#">Position open</a>
<b>Charitable Giving:</b> Peggy Strong	<b>Peace and Social Action:</b> Karen Volckhausen
<b>Choir:</b> <a href="#">position open</a>	<b>Potluck:</b> C. J. Lavertu
<b>Flowers:</b> Aesthetics and Membership Committees	<b>Sunday order of service:</b> Send to: <a href="mailto:office@uuellsworth.org">office@uuellsworth.org</a>
<b>Green Sanctuary:</b> Kay Wilkins	<b>Small Group Ministry:</b> Rev. Sara Huisjen
<b>History Committee:</b> Wayne Smith	<b>Stewardship:</b> Don Martin
<b>Kitchen:</b> <a href="#">Position open</a>	<b>Ushers:</b> Jon Thomas
<b>Landscaping:</b> Karen Wigglesworth & Vicki Fox	<b>Web Pages:</b> Peggy Strong
<b>Loaves and Fishes:</b> Sue Clark, Nina Turner, Dartha Reid	<b>Worship:</b> no chair – B. Dickens, C. Rosinski & S. Berger
<b>RE Chair:</b> <a href="#">Position open</a>	

# June 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 POTLUCK</b> 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 Worship Service	<b>2</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 2-7:30 Violin lessons (S) 7 pm Downeast NVC (TD) 7:00 St. Augustine (T)	<b>3</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 12:00 Al-Anon 6-9 pm DE Audubon	<b>4</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 6-7:30 Yoga (S) 6:30-8:30 Bus.Wksp (BR) 7 p.m. Coyote Group (TD)	<b>5</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 12 pm Al Anon	<b>6</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 6:00 AA	<b>7</b> 1-5 pm COM Retreat (CR,S,K)
<b>8 HUNGRY SUNDAY</b> 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 a.m. Worship Service 2-5:30pm Piano Recital (S, CR) 7-9pm Farm Sanctuary (S)	<b>9</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 2-7:30 Violin lessons (S) 7:00 St. Augustine (T)	<b>10</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 12:00 Al-Anon	<b>11</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 6-7:30 Yoga (S) 7pm -Traditional Music Jam (S) 7 p.m. Coyote Group (TD)	<b>12</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 12 pm Al Anon 6:30-8:30 Bus.Wksp (BR) 6-8pm Board Retreat (not at church)	<b>13</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 3-6 Outright Support (TD) 6:00 AA	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 a.m. Worship Serv.	<b>16</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 2-7:30 Violin lessons (S) 7:00 St. Augustine (T) 7-9 Downeast NVC (TD)	<b>17</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 12:00 Al-Anon 3:30-6 pm Expressive Arts (S)	<b>18</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 6-7:30 Yoga (S) 6:30-8:30 Bus.Wksp (BR) 7 p.m. Coyote Group(TD)	<b>19</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 12:00 Al-Anon	<b>20</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 6:00 AA	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 a.m. Worship Serv.	<b>23</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 7:00 St. Augustine (T)	<b>24</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 12:00 Al-Anon 3:30-6 pm Expressive Arts (S)	<b>25</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 6-7:30 Yoga (S) 7 p.m. Coyote Group (TD)	<b>26</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 12:00 Al-Anon 6-8pm Violin Recital (S)	<b>27</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 3-6 Outright Support (TD) 6:00 AA	<b>28</b>
<b>29 PLATE SPLIT</b> 9-1 RE office hours 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	<b>30</b> YMCA -6-6:30, RE 7-9 Downeast NVC(TD) 7:00 St. Augustine (T)					

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

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# *The NUUS*

## June 2014

### *The NUUS*

## Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth

June 2014

Vol. 46, No. 6

**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.**

