

Unitarian Universalist Church
Greater Ellsworth Downeast Area
First Unitarian Society Newsletter

April 1976

Sunday services
10:30 A.M.
Church telephone
667-4393

Minister: Dr. Harry C. Meserve
Box 428
Southwest Harbor
Tel. 244-7124

April services:

April 4 Dr. Foote
April 11 Dr. Meserve

April 18 Dr. Meserve
April 25 Dr. Meserve

Church News Items:

One of our members, who prefers to remain anonymous, has made a contribution of \$125. to the Building Fund.

At this time last year there was \$903.70 in the Building Fund. As of this date the amount in the Building Fund has grown to \$2629.43.

Sexton Duties for April:

April 4 & 11
April 18 & 25

Jack and Augusta Bromley
Richard and Joan Beal

There will be a Trustees Meeting April 5, 7:30 P.M. at the church.

Religious Education Meeting: Tuesday Evening, April 13 at the church.

Women's Alliance:

April 7 Business Meeting at the church 2:00 P.M.
April 14 No Meeting
April 21 Enterprise Luncheon. Hostesses--Corace Beal and Jean Beal.
April 28 Silent Auction and Plans for the Parish Meeting
May 5---Ruth Royal, Hostess.

Please keep in mind the Annual May Parish Meeting and Supper on May 5 at the church.

From the minister:

Ever since I can remember, people have been telling me that Unitarians should dispense with traditional observances like Holy Week, Good Friday, and Easter. These things are all, it is said, part of the mythology and ritual of a Christianity which we have outgrown and left behind. I do not argue these points any more, since such arguments invariably produce more heat than light and convince nobody. But I continue to feel that the life of Jesus, his commitment to a dream of human fulfillment in the kingdom of God, his willingness to teach that dream, live it on the earth, and die for it, since that was demanded, is not irrelevant to the realities of human life today. I believe that Jesus chose to sacrifice his life because he became convinced that was the best way he could serve the values he cared for: his god and the dream of the heavenly kingdom. When a human being does that, I can only look at him with wonder and appreciation of his courage and nobility.

Nor do I find it surprising or revolting that those who knew him best declared after his death that he was in some very real sense still alive. The alleged form and manner of his rising are quite in keeping with the thoughts and images of the world in which he lived. Had he been a Hindu, or a Taoist, or a Greek, or a Buddhist, the story would have been different. But there would have been a story. Had he lived in the twentieth century, a story would have arisen. That Jesus started was bound to go on.

Easter implies that human life has horizons wider than any we have yet imagined. As one of Jesus' followers said, "Now are we the children of God; it does not yet appear what we shall be." We should keep our minds open. We have a lot to learn.

H.C.M.