

Unitarian Universalist Church
Greater Ellsworth Downeast Area
First Unitarian Society Newsletter

November 1976

Sunday Services
10:30 A.M.
Church Telephone
667-4393

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

November Services

November 7	Dr. Meserve	November 21	Dr. Foote
November 14	Dr. Meserve (welcoming of new members)	November 28	Dr. Meserve

Women's Alliance

November 3	Business Meeting	Hostess: Catherine Skolfield
November 10	CHRISTMAS SALE 2 pm, & SUPPER 6:30 pm at IOOF Hall Tickets on sale at Alexander's Pharmacy. Supper chairmen: Fred Shea and Lewis Smith	

Sexton's Duties

Oct 31	Nov 7	Marion and Chandler Richmond
Nov 14	and 21	Joanne and Stanley Richmond
Nov 28	Dec 5	Leona Royal and Carrie Dunbar

Re: New Members - On Sunday, Nov. 14, new members will be welcomed into the church at the morning service. If you plan to join the church at this time, please notify Jack or Augusta Bromley, co-chairmen of the Membership Committee, or Dr. Meserve. If you have signed the membership book recently, we hope you will be present.

And we are happy to announce that the following five signed in October: Eric and Christina Benedum, Louise Tweedie, and Theresa Garnett as regular members, with Charlotte Smith of the Bangor Unitarian Church becoming an associate member. Perhaps we should all wear name tags some Sunday, to help everyone get acquainted??

From the Music Committee - November 14 at 3 pm is our first winter concert. Our artists are to be Dorothy Rice, harpsichord; John McLaren, guitar; and Marguerite McLaren, soprano. Mrs. McLaren is to sing a few old English songs, and also one by Handel.

Doris Seal has promised to be in charge of refreshments at the reception for the artists. We shall be glad to receive advertisements for our concert program. The price is minimal - \$5 for 1/4 page - but a real help in covering our expenses. See Eleanor Carlson for further details.

From the Treasurer - October is the last month of our "pledge" year. If you are behind in your payments, please try to update. If you are uncertain as to the payments you have made, check with Treas. Ray Royal.

Re: Christmas Choir - We have a nucleus, but need more help. If you sing or know anyone who does and would join us, perhaps we could celebrate Christmas with carols again this year.

In Memorium - On October 2, Elton E. Black passed away. He was a long time member of the church, and a former trustee, and will be missed by his many friends.

From the District Meeting - Mrs. Phyllis Canfield and Mrs. Dorothy Berry represented our church as delegates to the fifteenth annual meeting of the Northeast District of Unitarian-Universalist churches. The Friday banquet and talk were held at the Norway Universalist church, and the Saturday meetings, talk and luncheon were held at the South Paris Universalist church.

A most interesting talk on Saturday was given by Rev. Eugene Wierick of North Adams, Mass. who spent 1968 thru 1971 as minister at the Unitarian church in Capetown, South Africa. His salary was paid by the British but he was sent there from our U.S.A.

Twenty-three churches from Maine were represented at this meeting, 17 ministers, 38 lay delegates, and 20 non-delegates, all showing great enthusiasm in our Unitarian Universalist beliefs.

The R.E. Discussions in October brought a good turnout. Conclusions and future plans will be reported next month, as they are not available at press time.

From the minister:

The "public sermon" on November 7 will be called "Suggestions to a New President." As of the time these words are written neither of the principal candidates, nor any other candidate, for that matter, has asked for my advice. But that should never be a bar to the offering of advice by any citizen in a free country. The essence of our freedom is that we can tell our elected officials the problems that are of importance to us, and what we think they ought to do. Also they are supposed to listen to us, and they usually do sooner or later, if enough of us bring the same message.

Of course, at the present writing I do not know who the new president will be. But either way, he will be new in the sense that he will be newly elected, and he will need the advice of citizens, whether he knows it or not. Furthermore, what wins in this election is more important than who wins; and so in this public sermon I plan to offer our new president my suggestions as to some of the important human considerations to which he and the government that he plans to organize should address themselves.

The campaign, the debates, and the whole process of image-making, name-calling, and personal posturing have been disappointing to anybody who wanted to introduce serious consideration of such matters as peace, human equality, economic rehabilitation, or an end to poverty, unemployment, and human and natural waste. To deal with these matters we should have elected the League of Women Voters. They at least tried to raise the campaign to a level of serious debate. It is not their fault that they were stuck with a pair of actors who were unwilling or unable to deal with real issues.

Now that the necessity to get elected is over, perhaps the new president, whoever he is, will be able to turn his attention to reality in a larger sense than his own desire to be president. I hope so, and it is because I know this hope is shared by millions of other Americans that I offer some advice to our new president. There will, of course, be a chance to discuss, question, revise, and add to this theme on Sunday, November 7, after the service. Meanwhile, I'll get out my notepaper and start, "Dear Mr. President"

H.C.M.