

The NUUS



April 2019

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



*Celebrating the sacred, we gather in loving community
to nourish souls and live justice into the world.*

APRIL WORSHIP SERVICES, 10:30 A.M. This month's worship theme is Wholeness.

Sunday, April 7 **Stewardship Sunday: Stronger Together!** Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader
UUQ Singing! First Sunday Potluck! Amy Fiorilli, Intern Minister

On this Stewardship Sunday, we will celebrate the deepening vitality of our loving UUCE community and ask where we hope to be going. Honoring the many gifts people share, we'll also reflect on the transformative power of practicing gratitude and generosity in our shared lives.

Wednesday, April 10 at 7 p.m. *Turning Toward Hope* Rev. Elaine Hewes, Pastor
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

UUCE hosts the fifth of our Ellsworth area Lenten worship services with Rev. Hewes preaching. Please come and meet some of our faithful neighbors and help us build new connections with area congregations. An offering will be collected to support Families First Community Center. All are welcome.

Sunday, April 14 **"A Hidden Wholeness"** Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader
Vanessa Williams, Worship Associate

Thomas Merton claimed, "there is in all things...a hidden wholeness." Our 7th UU Principle calls us to covenant and affirm, "the interdependent web of existence of which we are all a part." How can we do a better job in our lives honoring the intrinsic wholeness in all people and beings, as well as the fact of our interdependence?

Sunday, April 21 **The Beloved Companion** Amy Fiorilli, Worship Leader
Mid-Maine UU Youth Present in Worship! Lori Johnson, Worship Associate

This Easter let us look upon the ancient story of sacrifice and hope through the eyes of Mary Magdalene, Jesus's most beloved companion. How different the path of Christianity might have been with this compassionate and wise woman as its lead following the crucifixion. Let this reflection on Mary, this silenced and reviled companion, inspire us to look at our own lives, for those without whom we never could have risen from the tragedies and heartbreaks of our experience. Who are your beloved companions? Let this Easter be a time to celebrate those who stand beside and behind us. Those upon whose shoulders we stand and those who gently tugged us forward out of the ashes when we saw no way forward. Let us honor the quiet lives of those who have loved us into being.

[continued on next page]

Worship Matters

Sunday, April 28 **Wholeness: The Sum of the Parts**
Wellspring Program Information Session at 12:30 p.m.!

Carol Rosinski, Worship Leader, &
 North Ellsworth Small Group Ministry

We are grateful to have members of our North Ellsworth Small Group Ministry program create and lead worship this morning.

Our Plate Split this April is with Friendship Cottage, which provides day service to dependent adults who may be coping with physical, mental, or memory challenges.



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY – AN INVITATION...

To listen more deeply and intentionally to others.

"There is a quality of listening that is possible among a circle of human beings, who by their attentiveness to one another create a space in which each person is able to give voice to the truth of his or her life. There is the miracle of authentic narrative, made possible by listening that holds still long enough to let our truth be told."
 - Rebecca Palmer

To listen to our deepest selves.

"So what do we do in a circle of trust? We speak our own truth; we listen receptively to the truth of others; we ask each other honest, open questions instead of giving counsel; and we offer each other the healing and empowering gifts of silence and laughter... Our purpose is not to teach anyone anything but to give the inner teacher a chance to teach us."
 - Parker Palmer

Once a month, at various times, 6 groups of 8-10 people gather together to share thoughts and stories related to our monthly themes. If you are interested in finding a group, or want to know more, contact one of the SGM leaders. We would love to have you join us!

Christine Bowman, Coordinator; Kay Hansen, Anne Ossanna, Carol Rosinski, Evelyn Foster, Mickey Worth, Haydée Foreman, David Dietrich



Would you like time to write with a group? Are you free Tuesday mornings between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.? Come join us in the Tidewater Room, pen and paper in hand! Call Dartha Reid at 667-5434 if you're interested and would like some more information.

Spiritual Matters

Introduction & Support for Your Silent Meditation Practice

Co-facilitators: Rev. Sara Hayman (novice)

Linda Laing (experienced meditation practitioner)

Four Thursday evenings—May 2 & 16 and June 13 & 27—6-8 p.m. at UUCE

Are you looking for support for your solitary meditation practice at home?

Are you curious about starting a silent meditation practice?

Are you a long time meditator interested in sharing your experience in community?

Rev. Sara and Linda Laing will facilitate this four-week course open to anyone interested in the benefits of establishing a silent meditation practice. We will begin each session with explorations of various silent meditation practices and also include a silent meditation session. There will be time for discussions, questions, identifying barriers, and sharing insights. The class will be structured to support your efforts to begin and/or sustain an ongoing meditation practice.

For more information contact Rev. Sara at sara@uuellsworth.org or Linda Laing at louielaing@gmail.com. Registration requested by calling or emailing the church office at office@uuellsworth.org or (207) 667-4393.

All are welcome!



"The Bible As They Never Taught It in Sunday School: Part II, The New Testament"

This is a UU look at the man behind the myth, Jesus, the radical rabbi from Galilee. It is also a look at his earliest followers, the people who wrote the New Testament, and how the Church turned the human Jesus into the divine Christ.

The class is led by Rev. Mark Worth, UUCE Minister Emeritus, after church. The remaining Sundays are April 7 and April 14 from noon to 1:30 p.m. All are welcome. Bring your lunch!

Ministry Matters

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead

“There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about.”

- Margaret Wheatley

These two quotes make me think about our UUCE congregation! What an honor and joy it is for me to walk with you in ministry.

In more ways than I can possibly count here, I see our congregation coming together to live our mission statement: *Celebrating the sacred, we gather in loving community to nourish souls and live justice into the world.*

Thank you to Robin Lovrien, members of our Board of Trustees and Mary Haynes (consulting to the board) for working so diligently together to help us transition into a policy-based model of governance that makes our organizational structure more responsive and able to support the growth we are experiencing. It was wonderful to have 25 members and friends attend the recent congregational conversations about these changes. The next informational session on policy-based governance and the impact it will have on UUCE will be on **Thursday, April 25, at 2 p.m.** in the Board Room.

Thank you to Nancy Avila and Cecily Judd (and all their helpers!) for organizing and hosting two receptions recently for the Colson family following the unexpected death of their son, Wilder. You show up and dare to love and companion one another in ways that change lives.

Thank you to Revs. Charles Stephens and Mark Worth for offering faith formation classes now and in the future at UUCE! We are grown and made a stronger UU community through your active and engaged presence in our congregation.



Thank you to Anne Ossanna, our R.E. Coordinator of eight years, for giving 110% to help create and lead meaningful programs for our children and youth. It will be wonderful to be able to offer OWL (Our Whole Lives), a faith-based comprehensive sexuality education curriculum for our elementary school-aged children next year at UUCE. (Many thanks, too, to Christine Bowman and Charles Betancourt for participating in the upcoming OWL facilitator training program in April at our Augusta UU church).

Thank you to Amy Fiorilli for being our wonderful and incredibly capable Intern Minister this year. Your leadership with worship, with bringing the practices of Spiritual Leadership to our Board, with coordinating our new Hospitality Ministry, and with loving and companioning our people is a beautiful, powerful thing to experience.

I am deeply moved by the spirit of love at work at UUCE. Thank you for believing in who we are and are becoming as a congregation.

Yours in shared faith,

Rev. Sara



UUCE Matters!

Launching Stewardship 2019

Each spring our church has a Stewardship program that provides a way for our members and friends to support the fiscal realities of UUCE. We are asked to make personal pledges once a year to help support the operating budget, which pays for our minister and staff, our programs, and provides the funds necessary to pay our building and maintenance expenses.

Our Stewardship campaign this year begins on April 7 with a special worship service led by Rev. Sara. Each Sunday through May 5 there will be an invitation and opportunity to fill out pledge cards. Members of the Stewardship Committee will be available to meet with folks to give assistance or answer questions. Watch for a special mailing in the next week which will have more information. This year we are hoping for 100% participation from our members and friends as we did last year.

Once the pledges are all in, the Finance Committee will create a budget for the next fiscal year. In May, members vote on the new budget, which will go into effect on July 1. The proposal for this year's budget is nearly 7% higher than last year's due to increased expenses in maintenance, plowing, programs, insurance, and a projected minimal salary increase for our minister. Rev. Sara is now being paid well below what the UUA recommends for ministers in churches comparable to UUCE in size and location. It is expected that we can reach a competitive and fair salary for her within three years if we can increase pledge dollars this year. The actual

2019/20 budget will be created contingent upon the pledges made during the pledge drive.

Each of us has our own financial situation. In different ways we value having this church to attend whenever we wish or whenever we might need it in the future. What questions do I ask myself before deciding how much I will pledge from the money that I have available to me? Please read some of the articles in the Stewardship mailing that is coming soon. We want our church to continue to be healthy and thrive financially. This is going to take generosity from everyone as they desire and are able.



The members of the committee are Stefanie Alley, Bob Francis, Jim Fisher, Margaret Thurston, Gary Shellehamer, Connie Bailey, Robin Lovrien, and myself. We want to thank you for all you have done in the past. Together we can do great things—yes, we can!

Thank you,
Evelyn Foster

Ministry Matters

Informational Session about WELLSPRING

A New Adult Religious Education Program To Be Offered at UUCE This Coming Year!

Sunday, April 28 from 12-1:30 p.m. at UUCE

We are excited to announce that UUCE will offer *Wellspring*, a ten-month adult religious education program of distinctly Unitarian Universalist spiritual development, beginning in the new church year.

All are invited to attend this informational session to learn more about what Wellspring is. Rev. Charles Stephens, one of our two Ministers Emeritus, is a trained Wellspring leader and will help facilitate this program, too. We hope you will consider joining. a

Please be in touch if with us if you have any questions you'd like answered before this Informational Session at sara@uuellsworth.org or amyfiorilli@gmail.com .

In shared faith,

Rev. Sara & Amy Fiorilli, Intern Minister

More About Wellspring

Begun in 2005, the UU Wellspring program celebrates the depth and breadth of our rich religious tradition.

Travelers on this path are challenged, comforted, and inspired by learning not just about Unitarian Universalism, but also about how to integrate their Unitarian Universalist faith more fully into their daily lives. Specifically, we focus on UU history and theology; how taking the Sources seriously might change the way we live our lives; and core spiritual themes such as vulnerability, forgiveness, joy, and more.

Holding this all together are the essential components that are the heart of all UU Wellspring programs: small group connection, commitment to daily spiritual practice, monthly spiritual direction, reading and reflecting on the assignments, and putting our faith into action, all resting on a foundation of deep listening.

Welcome to Our New Collaborative Intern Minister Ariel Aaronson-Eves

Ariel Aaronson-Eves is a third-year Masters of Divinity student at Starr King School for the Ministry, with a passion for food, land, and place. She spent six years working as a farmer, in Massachusetts, Arkansas, Kansas, and Maine, before starting seminary to prepare for UU ministry. She has a bachelor's degree in history and a deep commitment to racial justice that underlies her ministry. Her work explores the power of co-creation experienced through agriculture and the way our techniques of life and farming can either connect us to or alienate us from our habitats, our communities, and our bodies.

Ariel will begin her nine-month full-time internship with our three UU churches in Maine in September.

We look forward to the year ahead with Ariel among us!



Message from the President

April! Sun!! Things GROWING! Isn't it wonderful? Not only am I happy about spring, but I am also filled with joy about all that is going on in our wonderful community at UUCE. March was especially busy! As Rev. Sara has noted, we have had Sundays with rooms full of people learning about UU history and traditions, the Bible, and Spiritual Leaders, with teaching expertise from Revs. Emeriti Mark Worth and Charles Stephens, as well as Amy Fiorilli and Rev. Sara. PASA helps us actively support important causes and respond to issues such as the tragedy in New Zealand with its "Write Here Right Now" table. Tweens had a wonderful sleepover in Bangor with other UU Tweens and made new friends, with wonderful guidance from Anne, Michael Arruda, and Susan Brenner. Our Hospitality Teams continue to make us VERY happy at coffee fellowship and at potluck! And the auction events have begun to happen. I heard several comments about the cooking wizardry of Nancy A. :)) And five people gathered in loving friendship for the first of the "Movie and Dinner" events Chez Robin.

And speaking of the auction, the earnings have now topped \$12,000! This is astounding and such a help to our growing and active church and keeping it all running well. THANK YOU, Margaret Thurston, for guiding this fantastic effort!

Connie Bailey, Bob Francis, and I trekked down to Milton, Massachusetts, to a UUA-sponsored event about stewardship (at which we won the "prize," so to speak, for coming the farthest!) and came back filled with ideas for newer ways of

thinking about this critical issue. Watch for the special issue of the NUUS about Stewardship! This workshop was closely tied to one that a number of us, including five board members, attended in the fall on Spiritual Leadership. I am especially proud of our Board, as it "risks faithfully"—a term we learned at that workshop about an important practice of forward-looking spiritually-grounded leaders—in its move into policy-based governance and in learning about its new role in that model. The Board's enthusiasm for finding even more effective ways to guide our church and imagine its future is humbling and delightful. On March 21, we had two gatherings of enthusiastic folks learning about our new governance approach. The shift in governance is intended to make our church run more efficiently and transparently as we grow in size and involvement. As the events noted above indicate, we are busier and more productive than ever, and the Board is eager to continue to support that growth in the wisest ways possible. We work closely with the Northern New England District UUA leaders and the leaders from the UUA in Boston as we move carefully down this new path. Your support and interest and enthusiasm are very encouraging. We will be holding more information sessions for you, since this shift will affect every person one way or another. It will allow for fuller, more rewarding participation in church life and more ready responsiveness to ideas for improving our church in many ways.



Robin
Board President

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

A huge thank you goes out to our **March Hospitality Team**. This incredible group of people was led by **Helen Kazura and included Carol Rosinski, Karen Volckhausen, Marta Rieman, Stefanie Alley, and Peggy Strong**. They had a hard month with five Sundays and two potlucks. But they did it with smiles and good humor. We are so lucky to have these amazing women among us!

Our **April Team** looks just as amazing. Please say **thank you to Haydée Foreman for leading, and to Gerry and Sonny Mehl, Evelyn Foster, David Dietrich, and Cecily Judd**. Jump in and give them a hand whenever you can.

And a never-ending **thank you to Susan Opdycke** for being our supply guru and coffee/tea maker. Your commitment to this task is so appreciated, Susan!

I am also open to feedback about how this year's hospitality ministry experiment is going. We have some open slots ahead especially in July. Please reach out to me if you are able to help. I would love to have the 2019-20 church year all scheduled out before I leave you in June. Look for my sign-up emails in the near future.

Love love love,

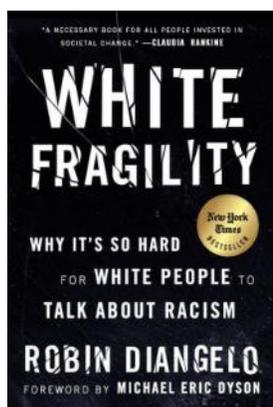
Amy Fiorilli

Intern Minister

amyfiorilli@gmail.com



UUCE BOOK DISCUSSION



Robin DiAngelo's *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism* (Beacon Press, 2018) is the subject of a book discussion led by Rev. Sara Hayman and Doug Bird. The next session is on April 9 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

All are welcome to come and explore the ideas presented in *White Fragility*. How can we be less defensive or fragile when we converse about racism?

If you weren't able to join us for earlier sessions, please don't hesitate to join us for this one. This is important work.

You can link to a short video (6:11) from Big Think Science on "Why 'I'm not racist' is only half the story," at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzLT54QjclA>. The podcast series "Seeing White" is at: <http://www.sceneonradio.org/seeing-white/> [Copy & paste these urls into your browser.]

Please contact Rev. Sara or Doug Bird (debird04609@gmail.com) to find out what to read in order to prepare for the discussion.

Collaborative Ministry

Our Collaborative Ministry Team Common Read for right now is the one chosen by the UUA for 2019: *Justice on Earth: People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and Environment* (available at the UUA bookstore at: <https://www.uua.org/books/read/justice-on-earth>).

JUSTICE ON EARTH

The CMT held church services on March 24 based on the book and addressing climate change and injustices caused by it. This was a three-church effort to raise awareness of the critical nature of the problems. Susan Opdycke, Gary Shellehamer, Vanessa Williams, and I (Robin Lovrien) offered our worship service at UUCE. Susan provided more insight into the notion of “intersectionality” — the coming together of the factors mentioned in the book’s title: race, class, and the environment. She described the devastation in Mozambique resulting from Cyclone Idai. She noted that the damage—to both humans and property—is especially severe because of systemic exploitation of Mozambique during colonialism, which left the country impoverished and ill equipped to manage a crisis of this magnitude. Gary provided three examples of intersectionality in the U.S. — the locating of the Dakota pipeline near tribal lands and sacred sites and the polluting of drinking water for people all down the local watersheds; the highly disproportionate impact of air pollution on poorer communities despite the higher production of such pollution by whiter, more affluent populations, and an example of a large

company taking advantage of the lack of influence of the poor neighborhood where it located a powerplant and piles of coal. The response to the topic was heartwarming, and we hope to grow the interest and enthusiasm into more concrete responses and actions addressing climate change and justice for all.

As one of the primary messages of the service was that we all need to take action RIGHT NOW, Gary, Martha Dickinson, and I provided a large selection of materials with information on upcoming group actions of all sorts, organizations to join or watch for information on responses to climate change and more, and products that can be used in the home to reduce the use of plastics. One local effort we all need to get behind is the proposed ban on plastic bags in Ellsworth. Many other Maine communities have already banned plastic bags, but Ellsworth has been slow to follow suit. Gary prepared a letter for us to sign to send to the Ellsworth City Council supporting the ban. THANK YOU, GARY!

We will have a book discussion on *Justice on Earth* on Wednesday, **April 3, at 7 p.m.**, with more to follow. Interest has been expressed for the formation of an Eco-Active Group that would not only continue this work on shaping stronger responses to global warming/climate change from us as a church, but also would help us cope with the anxiety and despair that news of environmental and human devastation creates in us as we pay attention.

Watch for announcements of events and for information each Sunday in the Community Room on how YOU can take the next best action! And bring us YOUR ideas for ways we can be an Earth Justice community!

LOCAL EARTH JUSTICE EVENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS

YOUTH DAY OF ACTION: CLIMATE JUSTICE NOW

Maine State Capitol, 11:30-2:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 23, Augusta State House (11:30 a.m. rally on Capitol Steps, 1-2:30 p.m. meeting with legislators in the Hall of Flags). Sponsored by *A Climate to Thrive*.

staci@aclimatetothrive.org.

FRENCHMAN BAY CONSERVANCY CARD BROOK CLEAN-UP

April 27, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Ellsworth Hannaford west parking lot. Card Brook is a stream in Ellsworth that runs under High Street (past Pizza Hut and other businesses) and into the Union River. Because of its location, Card Brook collects large amounts of trash that ends up littering the Union River and is eventually carried out to sea.

ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP

Sponsored by the **Ellsworth Green Action Team** and the **City of Ellsworth**. Special trash bags will be available starting April 24 at Ellsworth City Hall; participants can gather roadside litter and place the bag by the roadside for city crews to pick up. Trash can be collected until May 5. The Ellsworth Green Action Team will have a Roadside Clean-Up Day event May 4 on the City Hall parking lot; snacks and trash bags available.

mark.c.whiting@gmx.com.

ELLSWORTH GREEN PLAN

By June 2019, Green Plan volunteers will write a comprehensive set of recommendations in 10 focus areas to put Ellsworth on the path to becoming a model green community. These recommendations will result from the input of hundreds of citizens and numerous experts, dozens of public forums, and countless focus area meetings backed by thorough local research. <https://www.greenellsworth.org/>

#TRASHTAG CHALLENGE

To participate in the viral Trashtag Challenge, as an individual or group, grab trash bags, go outside and pick up litter. For more information, visit https://mashable.com/article/trashtag-challenge-social-media/?utm_campaign=hp-hh-sec&utm_source=internal&utm_medium=onsite#28wr6dbjVPqV

CLIMATE TO THRIVE

Mount Desert Island residents, businesses, and towns working together to achieve energy independence by 2030 and make MDI an inspiring epicenter of citizen engagement, sustainability, and economic vitality.

<https://www.aclimatetothrive.org/>

NATURAL RESOURCE COUNCIL OF MAINE

Protecting the nature of Maine since 1959, by harnessing the power of science, the law, and the voices of people who value Maine's environment. <https://www.nrcm.org/>

THE ABBE MUSEUM

26 Mt Desert Street, Bar Harbor 04609. Mission: To inspire new learning about the Wabanaki Nations with every visit. Winter Hours: November–April, open Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Summer Hours: May–October, open daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission fees from May to October 31 are: Adults: \$8; Seniors: \$7; Children 11-17: \$4; Children 10 and under: Free. <https://www.abbemuseum.org/events> and <https://abbemuseum.wordpress.com/>

RACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Saturday March 30, 7 p.m. Bay School's Emlen Hall, Blue Hill

Americans Who Tell the Truth are holding a conversation about race, gender, and social justice with Bree Newsome, South Carolina, activist, and Maulian Dana, Tribal Ambassador of the Penobscot Nation and founding member of the Maine Chapter of Not Your Mascot.

Peace and Social Action



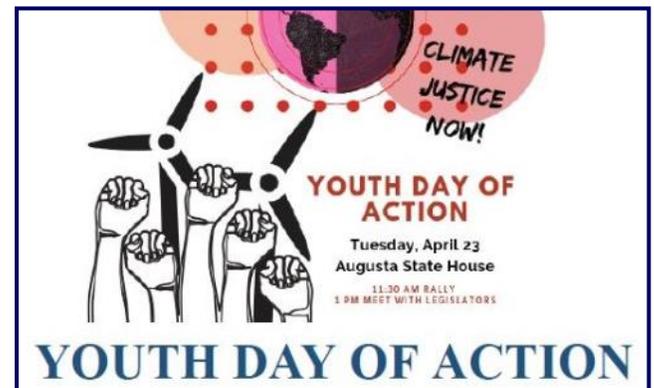
"For way too long, the politicians and the people in power have gotten away with not doing anything to fight the climate crisis, but we will make sure that they will not get away with it any longer."

"Our house is on fire. I am here to say, our house is on fire. [...] I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if our house is on fire. Because it is."

- Greta Thunberg,
16-year-old climate activist



**DOWNEAST CLIMATE MARCH
VILLAGE GREEN, BAR HARBOR
SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1-3 P.M.**



**Tuesday, April 23
Youth Day of Action:
Climate Change Now!**

State Capital at Augusta State House

11:30 a.m. rally on Capitol Steps

**1-2:30 p.m. meet with legislators
in the Hall of Flags**

**Sponsored by A Climate to Thrive.
Contact: staci@aclimatetothrive.org**

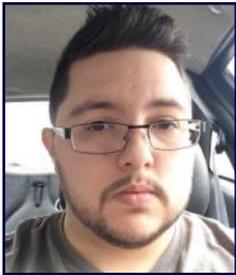
New Members!

On March 24, 2019, we formally welcomed six new members into our church. We are glad you have made your way here!



Please get to know:

Tobias Betancourt



Tobias hails from Long Island, New York, where he was born and raised. He moved to Maine at 17 to attend the University of Maine at Fort Kent and decided to stay, moving to

beautiful Hancock County and becoming a member of UUCE. When family matters took him back to New York, he never forgot his Maine family and always hoped to return. Now, he's happy to call Penobscot County his home and has been excited to return to UUCE.

Sarah Curts

Having moved around the country for much of her life, Sarah returned to Maine in 2003. With four generations of her family calling coastal Maine "home," she's proud to



have spent the past 17 years working for non-profits that focus on the conservation and ecological health of our coastline. She currently works for Friends of Acadia in Bar Harbor. A mother of four children, she enjoys reading, cooking, kayaking, hiking, knitting, and spending quality time with good people.

Carolyn Ericksen-Buss



"My name is Carolyn Ericksen-Buss and it seems I have been on a spiritual journey for all of my life. I remain on that journey but feel a comfort that many here at UUCE also seem to be on that journey. There is a good energy here that tells me that I am home—and that is good."

Ken Hanson

Ken was born in Boston, Massachusetts. He spent most of his life in Quincy, with frequent visits to his father's hometown in Bar Harbor to visit family and maintain a home he had built there in 2003. Ken



graduated from Northeastern University. After serving a five-year sentence in accounting, he took a long sabbatical and toured America by car, camping out in the national parks, hiking, biking, paddling down slow rivers, and finding himself in the process. Upon his return, he went to work for AAA as an auto travel and member service counselor, doing about everything except road service and insurance sales. After 38 years at AAA, he retired in 2017 and moved to Bar Harbor, where he enjoys his many outdoor activities. Ken is a student of history, geology, and philosophy, and a lover of clear night skies and remote rocky places. Ken's brother Dave, a retired physicist, lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Ken started out as a Lutheran, but decided early on that the Reformation needed further reforming.

New Members!

[New Members, continued...]

Eventually, Ken found his way to the Unitarian "Church of the Presidents" in Quincy, where he was a member from 1994 until recently. Ken draws upon the teachings of what he calls his "toolbox guys": Ralph Waldo Emerson, Lao-Tzu, Thich Nhat Hanh, Jesus, Epictetus the Stoic, Epicurus with his four-part cure (Tetrapharmakos) for help in dealing with the here-and-now and leading a good life in harmony with nature.

Linda Uberseder



"I was born and raised in Berwyn, Pennsylvania. Upon graduation from Lebanon Valley College and West Chester University, I married

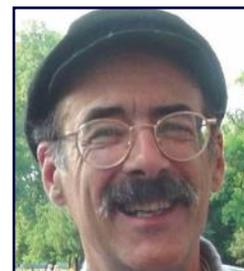
Eric and taught in Tredyffrin Easttown School District in Stafford, Pennsylvania, for five years before moving to Lancaster County. There we raised our two children, Leah and Ethan, and I opened a Quaker school in 1995. At its height, we had 90 elementary and preschool children and a flourishing daycare center. I was actively involved in Girl Scouts, having my own troop for 12 years, following my daughter through her senior year in high school, and I was in charge of all Scout troops in southern Lancaster County. I was active in a bell choir before I started playing the dulcimer. I have been a practicing Quaker for 31 years, being active at the Yearly Meeting level working with kids.

Upon retirement, we moved to Bar Harbor. I

have written curriculum for Island Readers and Writers, am on the board at the MDI YWCA, am secretary of the Bar Harbor Garden Club, am on the membership and volunteer committee for Acadia Senior College, lead a dulcimer group and teach dulcimer, was part of Bookworms with kids at the Southwest Harbor Library, and am part of a Monday writing group."

Eric Uberseder

Eric Uberseder spent 40 years in school-based psychological counseling for children, 31 of them as a Quaker, serving on advance and outreach and religious education. He was also Manager of Children's



Programs for weeklong summer sessions of Baltimore Yearly Meeting at various colleges. He figures he has devoted 14,000 hours to meditation and contemplation spread over 47 years, based on Hindu esoteric raja yoga writings of the Sutras of Patanjali. Among many other things, he has been a Professional Existential Counseling Astrologer for 30 years, an astrology author, and an astrology website and forum operator. He built a 20x24 two-floor house from scratch with a kit, and he's been a target shooter, wedding and portrait photographer, woodworker, web designer, and traveler all over east coast, Germany, and Britain.

He has been happily married to Linda for a long time; they have two grown children and one grandchild. He lived in central and eastern Pennsylvania for 61 years; Bar Harbor for 8; and Nutley, New Jersey, for 1. He came to UUCE for more contact with children, real community connections, and a philosophy of active LOVE that matches him.

Religious Education

Spring Greetings! March was a very rich and full month as our children explored the monthly theme of *Journey* with their guides Chuck Betancourt, Linda Uberseder, Cecily Judd, and Liz True. Our Nursery volunteers for March were Eryn Colson, Doug Bird, Alison Stephens, Vanessa Williams, Stephanie Dyer, and Susan Brenner.

On March 16-17, seven of our pre-teens attended the 6th annual pre-teen overnight gathering, hosted this year by the UU Society of Bangor. We had a blast! A huge shout-out to Susan Brenner and Michael Arruda for being awesome chaperones.

On April 12-14, Chuck Betancourt and Christine Bowman will attend a three-day facilitator training for the Our Whole Lives (OWL) K-6th sexuality sessions. I am so excited that we will be able to offer this important class to our early elementary children in the future.



Our monthly theme for April is *Wholeness*. Volunteers are needed for our Nursery in April.

Religious Education Calendar

- April 7** Exploring *Wholeness* with Chuck Betancourt and Anne Ossanna
- April 14** Exploring Passover with Anne Ossanna
- April 21** Annual Easter Egg Hunt after Time for All Ages
- April 28** Children's Chapel

Woyaya,
Anne



Multi-Church Ferry Beach Retreat

Our 2019 retreat will be held the weekend of October 25-27.

More information will be available in early April.

Registration begins April 14 during coffee hour.

Sankofa Corner



Miss Fanny Otis

Fanny Otis was born on October 22, 1807, in Boston into a staunch Unitarian family, followers of the doctrines of Dr. Ellery Channing. After her parents, Joseph and Fanny (Russell) Otis III, moved the family to Ellsworth around 1826, they became interested in Ellsworth's first attempt to establish a liberal religious movement in the mid-1830s. But the family moved to Otis in 1834, and they eventually settled into a Federal-style Cape in what is now the town of Otis, a home built with lumber sawn in her father's sawmill at the outlet of Beech Hill Pond. After her parents died and while her brother Charles was in the army during the Civil War, Fanny moved from the family home in Otis back to Ellsworth, living at the home of her older sister's daughter, Mrs. Sarah E. (Dutton) Joy, the wife of Calvin P. Joy.

She taught for a time at a private school, and her students always remembered her charming manner. Even as a child, Fanny was known for her "ripe" scholarship, her benevolence, her sound judgment, and her liberal hospitality. Her literary tendencies, together with her early educational advantages, were conducive to the development of that strength of mind and character which led her to become one of the pioneers of Unitarianism in Ellsworth.

Soon after the end of the Civil War, in the summer of 1865, Fanny teamed up with the sister of her younger brother Amory's wife Mary Jarvis, namely Ann Frances (Jarvis) Greely, and another Ellsworth area teacher, Catherine S. "Kate" Dyer of Sullivan, to draft a letter to Rev. Charles Carroll Everett, minister of the Unitarian Church of Bangor, asking him to send someone to Ellsworth who could assist them in establishing a Unitarian congregation in Ellsworth. Rev. Everett recommended a fellow minister, Rev. William Henry Savary from Groveland, Massachusetts, who accepted the call and two years later the First Unitarian Society of Ellsworth was dedicating its new meeting house on the corner of Main and Oak Streets in the center of town.

The following tribute was penned by "E. G." in a letter to the editor of the *Ellsworth American* soon after Fanny's death:

Though many years have passed since then [the founding of the church], yet Miss Otis' interest in the welfare of the church has never flagged, and though debarred from the privilege of regular attendance at church, yet she was always with us. In the kindly message, in the tokens suggested by thoughtfulness, in the written words of sympathy to the sorrowing, and more than all, in her occasional visits to her many friends, was the influence of her presence felt, as with that innate dignity of character which won the respect of all.

She took her place among us, and at once became a co-worker in the interest of church, Sunday-school or club. Though she had many friends outside the society, so strongly was she imbued with Unitarianism that to be a Unitarian was to win a passport to her favor. In her isolation, living so far from what might be termed social pleasures, her life, far from being lonely or unhappy, flowed calmly and peacefully on, with a dearly-loved brother, whose devotion to her left no wish unfulfilled within his power to grant.

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[Sankofa Corner, continued from previous page]

Her companions were the books she loved so well. For many years, her simple household duties and her books occupied her time and mind almost without exception.

How great the influence emanating from such a life, only those can know who take a similar delight in the companionship of our greatest and best writers. In her later years, it was her delight to gather the young people about her, entering into their pursuits with a relish, proving that though her years were many, her heart still remained young.

It has seldom been my lot to meet with one living to so great an age whose faculties remained so fresh and bright. Her rare wisdom and wise counsel, filled with all the rich experience of age, will be missed by many who, when they sought aid, were sure to find one in sympathy with their needs. As her life was placid and beautiful, so also was her death. With calmness, she talked with her friends of the separation so soon to come, making final arrangements as for a pleasant journey, knowing and conversing with those around her until the very last, when, painlessly and naturally, she passed on, I doubt not, to a higher life of continued usefulness.



Fanny's will, which was drawn up in 1864 while her younger brother Charles was fighting in the Civil War, left her entire estate to Charles, who maintained the family home in Otis for many years. She died on Friday, June 30, 1893, and her funeral service was held at the Unitarian Church in Ellsworth with Rev. Lorenzo D. Cochrane and his wife, Rev. Cora Sexton Cochrane, officiating. She was laid to rest at the Juniper Cemetery in Ellsworth Falls.

Wayne Smith

UUCE Historian



Our Aesthetics Committee offers Hannaford cards for sale on Sundays. The gift cards are handy for your own grocery shopping and for friends, neighbors, and family! We stock \$50, \$100, and \$250 cards. Our church receives 5% back from every card sale—free cash that goes toward UUCE improvement projects (new carpet, chairs, lamps, tables, and curtains, to name just a few!). Help us out and pay no more than the same grocery money you would spend anyway! Look for our table after the services in the Community Room alcove.

Time to Plan Some Yard Sale Fun!!

The UUCE annual yard sale is happening early this year – Saturday, June 29! As you're doing your spring cleaning, think of us! If you need us to, we can store your goodies until the sale. We take just about anything if it is CLEAN and IN GOOD WORKING ORDER. The only exceptions are large gym equipment, old tube TVs, and other stuff that Goodwill won't take if it doesn't sell.

We will be looking for help in setting up starting on the evening of Wednesday, June 26, and all day Thursday & Friday, June 27 & 28. Mark your calendars now, so you not only get to be part of TEAM YARD SALE, you get first dibs on all the great stuff we get donated!

Saving the best for last, we have a new Yard Sale Co-Chair! Welcome aboard, Bill Fogle! Yay!

Questions? Contact Beth Pepper at eapepper1@aol.com or (757) 746-7874, or Bill Fogle at williefogle@gmail.com or (207) 667-0034.



Are you receiving UUCE's weekly electronic newsletter? We want to make sure everyone who wants to read the *latest UUCE news* is getting our e-news bulletins. Check your All Mail, Junk, and Spam folders first if you think you have not been receiving the weekly news. Please contact Jeff at 667-4393 or office@uuellsworth.org to get on the mailing list or to update your email address.



* FOR YOUR CALENDAR *

Spiritual Book Discussion	Mondays 6-7:30 p.m.	UUCE
Writing Group	Tuesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Tidewater Room
Surviving Your Brain	Fridays 4-6 p.m.	Dolphin Room
Video Discussion Group	3rd Sundays 12:30-2:30	Board Room
Book Discussion—Climate	Wed, Apr 3 7 p.m.	UUCE
Last EAMA Lenten Services	Wed, Apr 3 7 p.m. Wed, Apr 10 7 p.m.	1st Cong Church UUCE
Book Discussion—Racism	Tue, Apr 9 1-2:30 p.m.	UUCE
The Bible, Part II	Sun, Apr 7 & 14 12-1:30 p.m.	Dolphin Room
2019/20 Pledge Campaign	Sun, Apr 7 to May 5	UUCE
Earth Day	Mon, Apr 22	Earth!
Policy-Based Governance	Thu, Apr 25 2 p.m.	Board Room
Wellspring Program Intro	Sun, Apr 28 12-1:30 p.m.	UUCE
Silent Meditation	Thu, May 2 & 16 6-8 p.m.	UUCE
Film "Almost Sunrise"	Thu, May 23	Alamo Theatre, Bucksport
Amy Fiorilli's Ordination	Sat, Jun 1 2 p.m.	UUCE
Three-Church Worship	Sun, Jun 9	UU Castine
Yard Sale	Sat, Jun 29	UUCE
Eggroll Fundraiser	Fri-Sun, Sep 20-22	Unity, Maine
Ferry Beach Retreat	Fri-Sun, Oct 25-27	Ferry Beach

Contact Information

Minister Rev. Sara Hayman: 610-2872 (cell) sara@uuellsworth.org	Religious Education Coordinator Anne Ossanna: 565-2057 aossanna@aol.com
Church Office (Tue 9-2, Wed 11-5, Thu 11-4) Administrator Jeffrey Jeude 667-4393 office@uuellsworth.org	Music Director Wayne Smith: 667-9482 wayne@mrlanguage.com
Intern Minister Amy Fiorilli: 930-0007 (cell) amyfiorilli@gmail.com	NUUSletter Editor (submissions deadline: 21st of each month) Margaret Thurston: 271-7974 mhthurs@gmail.com

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Trustee: Evelyn Foster to 2019	Trustee: Gary Shellehamer to 2021
Trustee: Mack MacDonald to 2019	Trustee: Christine Bowman to 2021
Trustee: Margaret Thurston to 2020	Youth Member: <i>open</i>
Trustee: Michael Arruda to 2021	Moderator: John Fink

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Aesthetics: Linda Laing	Membership: Nancy Avila
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Ferry Beach Retreat: Evelyn Foster	Stewardship: Betty Massie
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Flowers: Bronwen Day	Wayside Pulpit: Nancy Guy
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Hospitality Managers: Amy Fiorilli, Susan Opdycke	Yard Sale: Beth Pepper, Bill Fogle
Landscaping: Bill Fogle	Youth Advisor: Bob Dickens

Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth
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The NUUS

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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.