

# The NUUS



December 2019  
Volume 51, No. 12

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



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

## **DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES, 10:30 A.M. This month's worship theme is AWE.**

**Sunday, December 1** *Remember You Are of This Universe* Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader  
*First Sunday Potluck! Plate Split Sunday!* Karen Volckhausen, Worship Associate

We focus this month on the theme of *AWE*. G.K. Chesterton asks this question: How can we contrive to be at once astonished at the world and yet at home in it? In this service, as the dark and mystery of the season arrives, we explore how what awe is in our lives.

## **UUCE IS 12 MEMBERS STRONGER THIS MONTH!**

A warm welcome to: Barb Acosta, Tori Bell & Holly Hendricks, Susan Brenner & Scott Simpson, Paul Kelly, Kate O'Dell, Don & Lynne Hutchinson, Celia Scott, Janet & David Szarmach.

## **UUCE CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT**

We covenant as a loving community to:

- ◆ Be kind in word, tone, and deed;
- ◆ Communicate directly, and with honesty and thoughtfulness;
- ◆ Value a diversity of perspectives;
- ◆ Assume the best intentions in one another;
- ◆ Respectfully speak up when we are hurt and listen when we cause hurt; and
- ◆ When conflict arises, work constructively toward healing and forgiveness.



Our plate split for December is with MUUSAN, a statewide advocacy and public policy network anchored in our Unitarian Universalist faith, with primary issues of democracy in action, health care for all, climate change, and racial justice.



**Sunday, December 8, 10:30 a.m.      *Worship Service: Wonder As I Wander***

As Ministerial Intern Ariel Aaronson-Eve's travels between our collaborating congregations, she is following in the tradition of itinerant Universalist preachers who served congregations throughout Maine, preaching an emphatic and embodied message of God's love. In this sermon, Ariel will explore that history in relation to her own experience going between congregations, with special attention to the opportunities for wonder that wandering invites.

**After the Service We Decorate Our Holy Tree**

**Tuesday, December 10, 5:30 p.m.      *Advent Vespers: Where the Light Begins***

In this dark time of year, we long to feel and experience the return of the light. Come experience the grounding and nourishment of walking a labyrinth as we make time and space to turn within and feel the presence of love and hope. A simple warming meal of soup, bread, and cake will be shared after this contemplative service.

**Saturday, December 14, 10-11:30 a.m.      *UUCE Cookie Walk***

UUCE will host our annual COOKIE WALK. All are invited to come and peruse tables of delicious homemade cookies (including some gluten-free cookies) and to purchase small or large boxes to fill. Boxes of 10 cookies cost \$10 each.

**Saturday, December 14, 1 p.m.      *A Blue Holiday Service: I Cannot Tell You How The Light Comes***

This season is hard for of us who are grieving, sad, lonely, or struggling with depression. In this simple worship service, we will make room to acknowledge what is tender and hard for us as we also reach for the light of hope and love. All are welcome.

**Sunday, December 15, 10:30 a.m.      *Worship Service: Music to Celebrate This Holy Season***

Come and share in the joy of this season with its many Holy Days through music and singing. In addition to special music and singing offerings, UUCE members Evelyn Foster and Jenn Ryan will share brief reflections about the power of music in this season.

**Tuesday, December 17, 5:30 p.m.      *Advent Vespers: Joy***

As we approach the darkest night of the year, we take time to reflect on the things that continue to bring joy into our lives - even amidst the dark. This playful vespers service will offer opportunities for reflection and creative expression. A simple warming meal of soup, bread, and cake will be shared after this contemplative service.

**Saturday, December 21, 3:30 p.m. Winter Solstice Service & Celebration: Circle of Light**

All are welcome to gather in the sanctuary at 3:30 p.m. to honor the Shortest Day. Please join us as we sit in circle with music, meditation, ritual, a Yuletide Treasure, and poetry. An offering will be taken to benefit *Every Child is a Holy Child* baby shelf at Loaves and Fishes. A potluck will follow the celebration. Led by Anne Ossanna, Charles & Tobias Betancourt, and friends.

**Sunday, December 22, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service: Every Child Is a Holy Child**

This year we will celebrate the Christmas story with a multigenerational service including beautiful music, singing, and a no-rehearsal pageant! Plan to join in the fun. All are welcome.

**After the Service UUCE Caroling**

Holiday carolers will leave UUCE at 1 p.m. and go to Courtland Rehab & Living Center to sing for residents. Bring a bag lunch to church that day. All are welcome!

**Tuesday, December 24, 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Service: Then Christmas Comes**

In his meditation about the meaning of Christmas, Rev. Max Coots writes: "Another Christmas comes to us, and as always, it comes when we need it most..." In the midst of darkness, there came a great light! Tonight, we'll sing carols, read lessons, light candles and celebrate the birth of sacred hope among us.

**5:30 p.m. Potluck Dinner**

in our Community Room. **Choir practice is at 6 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. We hope you will share with us this special time of light, music, storytelling, and being together.

**Sunday, December 29, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service: Awe and the Natural Environment in Winter**

On this last Sunday of the month, UUCE member Jim Fisher will lead worship by inviting people to reflect on awe and the natural environment in winter.

**Wednesday, January 1, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Workshop: Crossing the Threshold: Entering Intentionally Into This New Year**

What doors are closing in your life as this year ends? What doors do you hope will open? What prayers and intentions do you want to hold and carry into the year ahead? What will ground you in living more consciously, in touch with love, strength and generosity?

Through worship, writing, sharing and silence together on this New Year's Day, we will create space to reflect on these questions. All are invited to experience this spacious and intentional day.

For more information, contact, Evelyn Foster at [ewfoster@myfairpoint.net](mailto:ewfoster@myfairpoint.net) or Rev. Sara at [sara@uuellsworth.org](mailto:sara@uuellsworth.org). Registration is requested through Jeff at the church office by Friday, December 27, by calling (207) 667-4393 or emailing at [office@uuellsworth.org](mailto:office@uuellsworth.org).



**NOURISH YOUR SOUL DURING THESE HOLY DAYS**

## Ministry Matters

*A Christmas poem to share:*

It is the Glad Season.

Hope is born again the faces of children

It rides on the shoulders of our aged  
as they walk into their sunsets.

Hope spreads around the earth. Brightening all things,  
Even hate which crouches breeding in dark corridors.

In our joy, we think we hear a whisper.  
At first it is too soft. Then only half heard.  
We listen carefully as it gathers strength.

We hear a sweetness.

The word is Peace.

It is loud now.

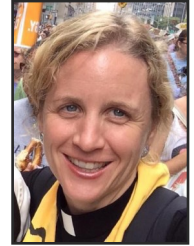
Louder than the explosion of bombs.

- *Amazing Grace* by Maya Angelou

Sitting at my desk in my office at home,  
I can hear the wind blowing outside my window,  
the light in the sky fading already at 3:35 p.m.  
It's cold now, and dark too soon, and yet,  
if I wait, if I listen, if I open myself to the  
mystery and sacred depth of this holy season,  
I feel a coziness and quiet that is nourishing, that is real.  
In the dark and cold, with faith and trust enough  
to know the light will return, and love will be born,  
again and again, this day and all days,  
may the stars shine brightly above you.  
may peace shine softly within you,  
and may the love of this holy season light your way.

Yours, in shared ministry,

*Rev. Sara*



### CHRISTMAS DAY OPEN HOUSE

**Wednesday, December 25**

**2 to 5 p.m.**

**at Rev. Sara's Home:**

**46 Elm Street,**

**Bucksport, ME 04416**

**The lights on tree will be lit!**

**Hot drinks and snacks  
will be ready!**

**Music and holiday stories  
will be shared.**

**Please stop by**

**and visit for a while and  
share in the warmth and love  
found at the heart of this season.**



## Church Matters

# EVERY CHILD IS A HOLY CHILD



### *Reverse Advent Faith in Action Project for the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry*

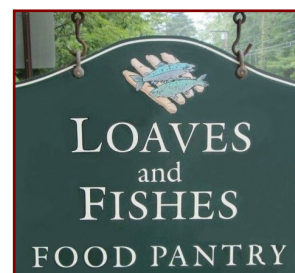
On December 1, UUCE's Religious Education program invited the entire congregation to help launch a Faith in Action project to benefit the Baby Shelf at Loaves and Fishes. All are encouraged to participate by donating as we can to build up badly needed supplies of baby formula, food, diapers, lotion, etc.

Our gifts are already making a difference! Here's a list of items we'd like to provide in the second week of December:

<b>December 8</b>	<b>size 1 baby diapers (Hello Bello suggested)</b>
<b>December 9</b>	<b>baby shampoo (Baby Magic or Hello Bello suggested)</b>
<b>December 10</b>	<b>size 1 baby diapers (Hello Bello suggested)</b>
<b>December 11</b>	<b>soy powder baby formula</b>
<b>December 12</b>	<b>baby food</b>
<b>December 13</b>	<b>size 2 baby diapers (Hello Bello suggested)</b>
<b>December 14</b>	<b>powder baby formula (Pure Bliss suggested)</b>

Let's make sure no baby goes hungry on our watch! We also gratefully accept donations of Hannaford gift cards and do the shopping for you. The brands mentioned above are in line with our UU values, but are suggestions only. Donations may be brought in any time through December 22 and placed in designated boxes in the RE hallway. If you need your donations to be picked up, please contact Anne by email at: [aossanna@aol.com](mailto:aossanna@aol.com).

Please donate as you are able. Or volunteer at the pantry. UUCE, Loaves and Fishes, and struggling families thank you!



## Church Matters

### HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

A huge thank-you goes out to our November Hospitality Team: **Marc Rich** for leading, along with **Nancy Guy, Sally and Bob Francis, Mardi Thompson, and Mickey and Mark Worth**. New faces to the team belong to **Jana Robinson, Kate O'Dell and Paul Kelly**.

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!

**Our December Hospitality Team** is small in number, but mighty in service! This great team will be led by **Alison Stephens**, along with **Margarita Marnik, Sally and Bob Francis, Evelyn Foster, and Sally Gervais**. Please jump in to lend a hand if you are able!

**Our January Team** is set and ready for the cold winter blast! Thank you for your gracious and speedy responses!

If you haven't served for a while, please send Jeff an email at [office@uuellsworth.org](mailto:office@uuellsworth.org) or call 667-4393 with your choice of month to serve in 2020.

Many hands make light work!



## Guest at Your Table

WOMEN LEADERS, STRONG COMMUNITIES

### 2019-2020 Theme: Women Leaders, Strong Communities

Since our founding, UUSC's work has been shaped and sustained by women's leadership. Today, we are proud to partner with women leaders who are increasing representation for women in their communities, while strengthening access to justice for all. During this year's Guest at Your Table program, please join us to learn more about women leaders from UUSC partner organizations taking on some of today's greatest human rights challenges.

Watch for  
Guest at Your Table  
boxes in the Community  
Room!



## Message from the President

As I write this the day before Thanksgiving, I want to express my gratitude for the beloved community that you are, exhibited in your words and actions.

By the time you read this, Thanksgiving is over. I hope that you had a day of gratitude and comfort.

I was thankful for the turnout at the Congregational Conversation on November 15, *Becoming Our Best*. Over 70 people participated in the gathering and the next day the board worked with Unity Consultant Laura Park, who facilitated the workshop, Rev. Sara, and Mary Haynes, to review the data that was gathered in your answers to questions, the pair and group interviews, and the designed magazine covers/web pages that showed your wishes for a future UUCE as means of defining the core values our church holds. We will continue to work with this information as we go forward and have reports to you in the spring.

As we envision the future, we will also be working on problem solving, working with individuals and committees on issues facing our church. These range from a review and updating of our by-laws to getting input on the problems of space (both in the sanctuary and on the parking lot).

At UUCE, we recently celebrated our new members service. To those who joined our community I want to express my personal greeting. I look forward to getting to better know some of you and becoming acquainted with those I have not met yet. Welcome to Barb Acosta; Tori Bell and Holly Hendricks; Susan Brenner and Scott Simpson; Don and Lynne Hutchinson; Paul Kelly and Kate O'Dell; Celia Scott; and Janet and Dave Szarmach.

December brings a lot of UUCE activity, from the Cookie Walk to Advent Vespers, to the Blue Christmas service, to the famous unrehearsed UUCE pageant, and to the celebration of the Winter Solstice. Whatever holiday(s) you celebrate in the coming days, I hope December brings you joy.

The month also delivers a time of year I truly appreciate. This is perhaps best summed up by the opening line Simon and Garfunkel's *The Sound of Silence*: "Hello, Darkness, my old friend...." I remember paging through *Singing the Living Tradition* and seeing "Dark of Winter" by Shelley Jackson Denham with the lines "...dark of winter, soft and still, your quiet calm surrounds me" and "Gentle darkness, soft and still, bring your quiet to me." These struck a chord for me. The feeling was reinforced with Advent vespers my first year at UUCE, dark evenings when some of us gathered to be together but also to be invited to remain in the sanctuary lit only by candles that had been a part of the service. A personal memory outside of the church, Bill and I took a late-night walk after a day of snow. The sky was lit only by a cloud-filtered moon and the snow was unsullied, marked only by the plows that cleared the streets. Our traditional daily "last trip out" for dogs to do what they need to do turned into a calm, soulful appreciation of the near-dark landscape.

So, in addition to joy, I wish you the deepening awareness of your life's truths.

Your Board President,

Gary Shellehamer  
[president@uuellsworth.org](mailto:president@uuellsworth.org)



## *Crossing the Threshold: Entering Intentionally Into This New Year*

*Wednesday, January 1, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at UUCE  
Facilitators: Rev. Sara Hayman & Evelyn Foster*



On New Year's Day of 2020, we will continue our tradition of a workshop to help us enter more consciously into the new year. We will examine: What doors are closing in your life as 2019 ends and what doors might you open? What intentions do you want to carry into the year ahead? What will help ground you in living more in touch with love, strength, and generosity?

We'll create space for reflection on these questions through worship, writing, sharing and silence together on this New Year's Day. All are invited to experience this spacious and intentional day.

For more information, contact, Evelyn Foster at [ewfoster@myfairpoint.net](mailto:ewfoster@myfairpoint.net) or Rev. Sara at [sara@uuelsworth.org](mailto:sara@uuelsworth.org). Please register via the Jeff in the church office by Friday, December 27: call 667-4393, email to [office@uuelsworth.org](mailto:office@uuelsworth.org), or drop by in person during office hours.

### **\*\* PLEASE BE ALERT FOR EMAIL AND PHONE SCAMS ESPECIALLY DURING HOLIDAY SHOPPING \*\***



**IF YOU RECEIVE AN UNUSUAL MESSAGE APPARENTLY FROM ANOTHER CHURCH MEMBER REQUESTING MONEY, CAREFULLY CHECK THE ACTUAL ADDRESS THAT IT CAME FROM TO SEE IF IT MATCHES THAT PERSON'S REAL EMAIL ADDRESS. IF IT DOESN'T, DO NOT RESPOND! BE SUSPICIOUS ESPECIALLY OF REQUESTS THAT YOU PURCHASE GIFT CARDS OR "COINS" FOR SOMEBODY AND FORWARD THEM THE SERIAL NUMBERS. THIS IS A SCAM. IF YOU RECEIVE SUCH A MESSAGE, PLEASE TELL THE PERSON WHOSE NAME WAS USED SO THEY CAN WARN OTHERS IN THEIR CONTACTS LISTS, AND LET THE OFFICE KNOW, TOO.**

**THE UUCE MINISTER, CHURCH STAFF, OR CHURCH LEADERS WILL NEVER SEND YOU ANY REQUEST FOR DONATIONS IN THIS MANNER, NOR IS IT LIKELY THAT ANY REPUTABLE ENTITY WOULD. ALSO BE AWARE THAT THE IRS OR POLICE OR OTHER GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS DO NOT CALL PEOPLE AND DEMAND IMMEDIATE PAYMENT OF TAX BILLS, FINES, OR BAIL MONEY.**

**NEVER, EVER GIVE OUT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION OR PIN CODES OR CREDIT CARD NUMBERS OVER THE PHONE UNLESS YOU YOURSELF HAVE INITIATED THE CALL USING A KNOWN NUMBER OR ONE YOU HAVE VERIFIED FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE. SCAMMERS ARE GETTING TRICKIER DAILY!**

**STAY SAFE! READ MORE AT: <https://www.uuworld.org/articles/church-gift-card-scam>**



## THOUGHTS FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Here we are at Thanksgiving time quickly rolling into December and wondering when that first big snow is on the way. You see, our slogan for 2020 is *Fuel Our Flame*. Think about all the ways we all “fuel” our ministries through our efforts, including working on committees, participating in fundraisers, or even giving extra in the plate split on first Sundays. We love the logo design for this next campaign and thank the artistic talent of Lisa Williams for developing it.

We on the Stewardship Committee realize that so much is done year-round to support the ministries of our church. “Don’t you guys do the Pledge Drive?” you ask. Well, yes, we do, but that’s ahead of us in the spring. From time to time we would like to share information about the efforts of others.

Rev. Sara and Nancy Guy carefully consider local agencies helping others that need our financial support in the first-Sunday plate split. Nancy describes the agency for that quarter of the year in the NUUS. Plate-split contributions are collected for three consecutive first Sundays and then that total amount is sent to the particular agency. We have collected two first Sundays now for MUUSAN, the state advocacy group in our UU faith, for a total of \$255, with the December 1 plate split to be added to that! Thank you, everyone, for your kindness. It was a heartwarming story listening to Nancy describe the previous quarter’s contribution given to the *neighbor4neighbor* fund in the amount of \$666. Nancy received a letter of thanks from the agency and was told that our check to them saved the day. The next plate-split agency starting on the first Sunday in January will be the Beth Wright Cancer Resource Center. Thank you, Nancy and Rev. Sara, for selecting local agencies so our support of others reaches into the community.

Let’s stay informed. If you have questions about anything, we will try to help or will get the right person to speak with you. Our committee of seven includes Connie Bailey, Robin Lovrien, Stefanie Alley, Margaret Thurston, Evelyn Foster, Betty Massie, and myself.

The best to you and yours here at holiday time,

*Bob Francis*

Stewardship Chair



## Church Matters

### Winter Solstice!



Our 6th UU source is the spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions that celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

Have you always felt drawn to the cycles of the earth? Does the song of the elements sing to you? Come join in communal sacred space as we explore the divine connection between ourselves and nature. If you are interested in ritual practice and exploring a sacred circle with like-minded individuals, come sit for a spell.

Our December circle will be a special Winter Solstice celebration at UUCE on the 21st at 3:30 p.m. It will include music, meditation, ritual, poetry, and an offering for Loaves and Fishes, with a potluck afterwards.

Brightest Blessings,

*Charles & Tobias Betancourt with Anne Ossanna*

### BCE Collaborative Ministry



***BCE (Belfast, Castine, and Ellsworth) is a collaborative ministry of three Unitarian Universalist churches in Downeast Maine. The Collaborative Ministry Team meets at UUCE on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. UUCE members of the CMT are Rev. Sara Hayman, Robin Lovrien, Mack MacDonald, and Gary Shellehamer.***

**CMT sponsors Common Reads/Discussions on topics of interest to UUs, shows documentary films at the Alamo Theatre in Bucksport, supports the annual three-church service and the Ferry Beach retreat, and works with our three-church collaborative intern, Ariel Aaronson-Eves.**



## 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL UUCE COOKIE WALK

**Saturday, December 14, 10-11:30 a.m.**

**First things first: Thank you to all the many cookie bakers at UUCE who are making this annual fundraiser possible!**

**Please help us get the word out so people know all are warmly invited to come and peruse tables of delicious homemade cookies (including some gluten-free) and to purchase small or large boxes to fill.**

**Come get in the holiday spirit!  
Boxes of cookies make lovely gifts!  
For more information, call 667-4393  
or email [office@uuellsworth.org](mailto:office@uuellsworth.org)**

**As always, THANK YOU so much  
for helping to make this  
a fun, festive, and successful event!**

**With gratitude and joy,  
Sara**

## Message from Our Intern

With December we enter the Christian season of Advent, a time of hope, expectation, and preparation leading up to Christmas. Although many people associate Advent with little calendars that offer chocolate each day, it is traditionally a time of fasting rather than celebration.

Growing up I always loved the *season* of Christmas, the festivities leading up to the holiday, much more than the day of Christmas itself. I liked decorating the tree and listening to Christmas songs. My family usually held a Christmas caroling party a few nights before Christmas, and we attended the Christmas parties of others. Hanukkah, too, we celebrated in the midst of the other festivities. It was a season of fun and togetherness, one which I learned to appreciate in a deeper way when I studied abroad in Copenhagen. The December days are very short in Denmark, but the long nights provide plenty of opportunity for *hygge*, roughly translated as coziness. The dark world is

brightened by candles and Christmas lights, by time spent with dear ones and sipping mulled wine while strolling through the countless Christmas markets. The lack of sunlight

helped me experience how important, how vital, our little festivals of preparation are.

As the nights get longer for another few weeks, may you all find ways to bring light and love into your lives. May you be warmed by the wood stove or the company of friends, and by the knowledge that you are a part of this caring and joy-filled community. I look forward to the many ways we will find to be together this month.

*Ariel Aaronson-Eves*

Collaborative Intern, UUCB, UUCB, UUCE  
aaronson-eves@ses.sksm.edu



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**Early bird registration is now open for the UU Association's 2020 General Assembly to be held in Providence on June 24-28. You can save \$100 by putting down a \$50 deposit and paying the balance by February 29 (Leap Day!). This year's GA coincides with the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower's arrival.**

## Around the Church

### AESTHETICS COMMITTEE



Our UUCE Aesthetics Committee offers Hannaford and Shaw's gift cards for sale on Sundays. Get some for your own grocery shopping and for friends, neighbors, and family! We stock \$50, \$100, and \$250 Hannaford cards and \$100 Shaw's cards. When we buy these in large quantities, we earn 5% back from every card sale, and as soon as we have accumulated enough funds beyond what's needed to maintain our stock, the profits go right into UUCE improvement projects. Steered by our hardworking chair, Linda Laing, we have contributed new carpet, chairs, lamps, tables, curtains, name tag racks, and bulletin boards, to name a few!

*Look for our table in the Community Room alcove after Sunday services!*



*Our Writers' Group meets on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.  
Call Dartha Reid at 667-5434 if you have any questions!*

## Peace and Social Action

UUCE's Peace and Social Action Ministry believes in the need for us each to actively participate in our government. PASA wants to know: What concerns you? And what are you doing to register those concerns with your representatives?

We are currently following the Maine UU State Advocacy Network's suggestion to donate via **United Way** at: <https://www.unitedwaygp.org/2019/06/14/expo-shelter/>. This link has additional information about volunteering and a calendar of activities.

*Faithify* is a UU crowdfunding website for donating to specified causes.

Your e-mails and phone calls matter!  
Contact your representatives:

- ◆ **Senator Susan Collins**  
DC (202) 224-2523, Bangor (207) 945-0417  
<https://www.collins.senate.gov/contact>
- ◆ **Senator Angus King**  
DC (202) 224-5344, Bangor (207) 945-8000  
<https://www.king.senate.gov/contact>
- ◆ **Rep. Jared Golden**  
DC (202) 225-6306, Bangor (207) 249-7400  
<https://www.golden.house.gov/contact>
- ◆ **Chellie Pingree**  
DC (202) 225-6116  
<https://www.pingree.house.gov/contact>
- ◆ **Gov. Janet Mills**  
(207)-287-3531, <https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/contact>

Don't forget **RESISTBOT**:  
Text "resist" to 50409 or <https://resist.bot>.

### Check Out the UU Ministry for Earth



**Website** <https://www.uumfe.org/get-involved/climate-action-network/>

**Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/uuministryforearth/>

**UU Social Justice Write Here/Write Now**  
<http://uusj.net/wp1/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Final-WHWN-2019-09-17-Senate-Economic-and-Climate-Justice.pdf>

Stop and pick up a postcard when you see this sign in the Community Room!



# EarthSong



## Climate & Justice

For info: [haydeesf@myfairpoint.net](mailto:haydeesf@myfairpoint.net)  
(207) 266-3872

**SING** for the planet,  
advocate for the climate  
and for justice.

**Combat climate anxiety  
and take creative action!**

**Be a musical activist!**

EarthSong is open to all singers.  
Learn environmental, peace, and  
justice-themed songs to sing a cappella.

Starting January 13, there will be  
meetings at 5:30 p.m.  
at Haydée Foreman's home in Blue Hill  
on 2nd and 4th Mondays, AND  
at UUCE on 1st and 3rd Mondays.



For more than 30 years, the  
science has been crystal clear.  
**How dare you continue to look away  
and come here saying that you're doing  
enough, when the politics and solutions  
needed are still nowhere in sight.**



## Peace and Social Action

### A Family for ME

You can be the life changing  
hero in a child's story.

**You can be a  
Foster Parent.**

A Family  
for ME

Call: 1-844-893-6311

Or Visit: [AFamilyForMeMaine.org](http://AFamilyForMeMaine.org)

We can stand up for the children of Maine. We can pray for individual children.  
We can support existing foster/adoptive families in our congregation or community.  
We can help keep the need for foster/adoptive families in the public eye.  
And if you think you could even be a foster parent, contact:

Rebecca Beal, LSW – Supervisor for Northern & Eastern Maine  
(207) 233-5308 [rbeal@spurwink.org](mailto:rbeal@spurwink.org)

**UU the Vote.** No matter who you are, what skills you have, what issues you care most deeply about, you are invited to join with other Unitarian Universalists to #VoteLove and #DefeatHate at all levels in 2020. With organizing resources for congregations and opportunities to collaborate across UUism and with local and national partners, UUA will amplify the energy that's building to mobilize voters, combat voter suppression, leverage our resources, and nurture our spirits.

Sign up now to be a part of this work. Text **VOTELOVE** to **51555**.





## Peace and Social Action



### *Join Us for the EcoSattva Training: Together at an Edge*

Are you concerned about climate change but feel you would like more guidance to know how to move forward? Please join the Peace and Social Action Committee of UUCE to take part in One Earth Sangha's **EcoSattva Training**. Drawing on insights from Buddhism and the growing field of climate psychology, we will explore our thoughts and feelings about the climate crisis so we can respond to it authentically, positively and whole-heartedly. Sessions begin **Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2019 at 10:00 am** at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth, 121 Bucksport Road, Ellsworth, ME 04605. The group will meet every other Wednesday for a total of eight sessions. In addition, One Earth Sangha will hold monthly virtual meetings beginning Nov. 24. Individual registration fee is \$150 and discounts will be provided to groups such as ours. Scholarships are available from One Earth Sangha and no one will be turned away.

You can find out more about the course at <https://oneearthsangha.org/ecosattva>.

Our EcoSattva Training group "UUCE\_PASA" has been created. To receive the group member discount, be sure to use [this link](#) to register.

Contact Barbara Acosta at [drabarb@gmail.com](mailto:drabarb@gmail.com) or Doug Bird at [birddoug137@gmail.com](mailto:birddoug137@gmail.com) if you have questions.

We hope you will join us!

## Religious Education

### December RE Calendar



- December 1** Children's Chapel — A collection will be taken to add to the plate  
Potluck Sunday  
12:30 to 2 p.m. OWL with Christine and Charles; Parent Group with Anne
- December 8** Holy Day crafts with Anne, Charles and Tobias  
Decorating the Holy Day tree in the Sanctuary after worship  
12:30 p.m. OWL pizza lunch in the RE Wing  
1 to 3 p.m. OWL with Christine, Lane, and Charles; Parent Group with Anne



- December 15** Holy Day crafts with Anne, Charles, and Tobias
- December 22** No-Rehearsal Christmas Pageant  
After worship, deliver *Every Child is a Holy Child* Reverse  
Advent donations to Loaves and Fishes  
12:30-1:30 p.m. Caroling at Courtland Rehab Center
- December 29** Birthday Party after Time for All Ages — Linda Uberseder is providing cake!

# SPRING



# EQUINOX PRE-TEEN

## U.U. Overnight Retreat

Join us as we celebrate the Spring Equinox with  
food, fun and wonderment!

**When:** Sat. March 21-22, 2020

**Where:** First Universalist Church in Rockland

**What:** A sleepover retreat for children ages 9-12

**Cost:** \$25.00 (Cost included dinner, dessert,  
breakfast and any guest speaker fees)

**RSVP:** Registration forms due to your DRE by  
March 9

**Sankofa Corner****Rev. Arthur Herbert Coar's Years in Ellsworth: 1898-1902**

Toward the close of the month of October 1898, Rev. Walter Reid Hunt resigned his pastorate to accept a call to the Unitarian Church at East Orange, New Jersey. His resignation was formally accepted at a parish meeting held at the close of service on Sunday, October 30.

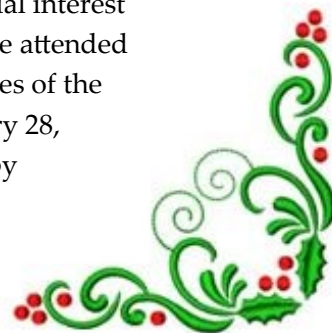
The Society was unanimous in its desire that the church should not be closed for even one Sunday and the pulpit committee was instructed to enter into correspondence with Rev. S. A. Eliot, Secretary of the AUA, in regard to calling a pastor. The first two Sundays after Mr. Hunt's resignation had taken effect, we were fortunate in having Rev. H. W. Smith of Toronto, Canada, to occupy the pulpit and on Sunday, November 20, Rev. Arthur H. Coar of Cambridge, a recent graduate of the Harvard Divinity School, came to preach as a candidate on the recommendation of Rev. Mr. Eliot. At a parish meeting held on Tuesday evening, December 6, Mr. Coar was unanimously invited to become pastor for an indefinite period, his year to begin on November 20, the date of his first occupancy of the pulpit. In order to have as many clergymen as possible present at the ordination and installation of Mr. Coar, and in the hope that some of our former ministers could attend, it was thought best not to have the exercises take place until after Christmas and the date was fixed for Tuesday, January 17. A severe storm which prevailed in the morning kept away many expected guests from neighboring churches, but the sun shone brightly during the forenoon and except for our disappointment at the absence of our guests, everything passed off as well as could be desired. A collation was served in the vestry at noon at which the Society entertained out-of-town visitors and the pastors of all the churches in the city and their wives. At two o'clock, the services were held in the church at which every pastor in the city participated.

During the year, special attention was paid to the work of the Sunday School. In April, Mr. Coar formed a Confirmation Class for the young people of the church, and meetings were held in the vestry on Sunday evenings for studies in matters pertaining to Unitarian belief, and on Sunday, July 23, five members of the class formally united with the Society.

In the summer of 1899, in which our church was represented by Mr. Coar's participation and by delegates at a number of interesting events. The Hancock County Conference of Unitarian Churches met at Lamoine in July and held three sessions which were full of interest and inspiration to all who were present.

The fiscal year of 1899-1900 was one of prosperity in the church. The course of lessons in Old Testament History, used by all the classes except the Kindergarten, proved of unusual interest and the teachers' meetings held at the home of Mrs. Wiggin on Friday evenings were attended by many of the adult members of the Society and became one of the principal features of the church work. In connection with the work of the school, on Sunday evening, January 28, Rev. Mr. Coar gave a lecture on Palestine, illustrated by stereopticon views loaned by the Unitarian Sunday School Association.

*[continued on next page]*



*[Sankofa Corner, continued from previous page]*

The meeting of the Hancock County Conference of Unitarian Churches, which had become an event of great interest to liberals throughout the county, was held in West Gouldsboro on August 1-2 and was attended by forty members of the Society. From 1899 to 1902, Rev. Coar served as Secretary of the Hancock County Conference. The church was also represented at the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Unitarian Association in Boston last May by the pastor and two delegates, and at the meeting of the Maine State Conference held in Waterville October 9-11 by five delegates, including Rev. Mr. Coar.

During the 1900-1901 fiscal year, regular services were held every Sunday morning with the exception of the usual vacation in August and one Sunday when Mr. Coar had been unavoidably kept away by illness.

A union service in which all of the Protestant churches united was held in the Congregational Church on Thanksgiving Day, and other union services were held on the first Sunday evening of each month during the winter in which our church was represented by the participation of the pastor.

The Sunday School was reorganized at the Annual Meeting on the first Sunday in November with Rev. Coar being elected to serve as Superintendent.

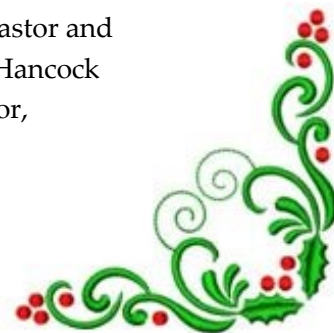
The usual Christmas festival was held in the vestry on Christmas Eve under the direction of Mrs. B. C. Hodgkins, Mrs. Charles I. Welch, and Miss Elizabeth Belcher. An appropriate play was presented by the children of the Sunday School after which presents were distributed from the tree and refreshments of ice cream, cake, and candy were served. At the close of the festival, the older members of the School and of the parish withdrew to church where Mr. Coar gave an impressive talk on the significance of Christmas.

The event of most importance in the history of the church for the year was the tenth annual session of the Hancock County Conference, which was held in our church Thursday and Friday, August 1-2, 1901. The church was represented at the anniversary May meetings in Boston by the pastor and two delegates and at the Maine State Conference at Eastport by the pastor.

There was preaching in the church every Sunday morning from the beginning of the fiscal year 1901-1902 until the second Sunday in September, with the exception of the annual vacation during August. A union service of all the Protestant churches was held on Thanksgiving Day 1901 in which Rev. Mr. Coar participated. There were also similar services on the first Sunday evening of each month when questions of civic interest were considered. During the winter and early spring, meetings were held on Sunday evenings at the Unitarian and Congregational churches alternately, the respective pastors preaching. The general subject of Mr. Coar's addresses was "Christian Ideals." The collection taken at these meetings was devoted to subscribing to magazines for the Public Reading Room.

The Society was represented at the anniversary May meetings in Boston by the pastor and three delegates; at the Maine State Conference in Yarmouth by the pastor; and at the Hancock County conference of Unitarian and other Christian Churches which met at Bar Harbor, July 30-31, 1902 by the pastor and thirty-five delegates and visitors.

*[continued on next page]*



*[Sankofa Corner, continued from previous page]*

At the Annual Meeting on the first Sunday in November, 1901, the Sunday School again elected Rev. Coar as Superintendent. The course of study was on the Life of Jesus and the work under Mr. Coar's direction was of unusual interest. The study class met regularly through the winter and enjoyed to the utmost a course of talks by Mr. Coar on Temperance, the Labor Problem, and Home Life, which were followed by discussions by the members of the Society.

It was with universal regret that the Society learned that Mr. Coar had tendered his resignation to the Pulpit Committee to take effect in three months or on the first of September, 1902. In his letter, which is preserved among the official records of the church, Mr. Coar expressed the warm regard which he felt for the people of this, his first, pastorate, his appreciation of the unity which had always existed between pastor and people, his hopes for the future prosperity of the church, and his deep regret that personal reasons made it best for him to resign. In August a parish meeting was held and Mr. Coar was asked to reconsider his resignation, but as he refused to do so, a committee was chosen to draft a set of resolutions which were adopted at a later meeting wherein was set forth the Society's appreciation of the earnest, conscientious work which Mr. Coar performed during his residence of nearly four years, not only for his own church but for the benefit of the community at large, and the regret which the Society felt at his resignation. The first Sunday in September, Mr. Coar returned from his new pastorate at Farmington, Maine, to reopen the church and the Sunday School for the ensuing season.

Writing in October 1902, the church Historian, Miss Mary Ann Greely, included the following paragraph in her history of the church:

*Within the present month there has occurred an event of such interest to the Society and so closely connected with the history, past and present, of the church that it seems fitting that it should have mention in these pages, although strictly speaking it may not be a matter of church history. On the evening of October first, there took place in the First Unitarian church the wedding of Rev. Arthur Herbert Coar and Miss Elizabeth Lombard Wiggin, the only daughter of two of the most devoted members of the church in its earliest days. Herself a child of the church, she was baptized at this altar and christened with the name of the wife of an honored pastor and became one of the most faithful of the younger members of the church and a teacher in the Sunday School. To Mr. and Mrs. Coar go forth the best wishes of our Society at the threshold of their new life.*

Wayne Smith

UUCE Historian





## **\* FOR YOUR CALENDAR \***

<b>EarthSong Justice Singers</b>	<b>1st, 3rd Mondays 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>UUCE as of January</b>
<b>EarthSong Justice Singers</b>	<b>2nd, 4th Mondays 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Haydée's, Blue Hill</b>
<b>Collaborative Ministry Team</b>	<b>Second Tuesdays 10 a.m.</b>	<b>UUCE</b>
<b>Spiritual Eldering Class</b>	<b>Wednesdays 4-5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>UUCE</b>
<b>Writers' Group</b>	<b>Tuesdays 1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Tidewater Room</b>
<b>Surviving Your Brain Support</b>	<b>Fridays 4-6 p.m.</b>	<b>Dolphin Room</b>
<b>Vespers Service</b>	<b>Tue, Dec. 10 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>UUCE</b>
<b>EcoSattva Training</b>	<b>alt Wed, Dec. 11 10 a.m.</b>	<b>UUCE</b>
<b>Cookie Walk</b>	<b>Sat, Dec 14 10-11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>UUCE</b>
<b>Blue Holiday Service</b>	<b>Sat, Dec 14 1 p.m.</b>	<b>UUCE</b>
<b>Vespers Service</b>	<b>Tue, Dec. 17 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>UUCE</b>
<b>Winter Solstice Service</b>	<b>Sat, Dec. 21 3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>UUCE Sanctuary</b>
<b>Pre-Service Potluck</b>	<b>Tue, Dec 24 5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Community Room</b>
<b>Christmas Eve Service</b>	<b>Tue, Dec 24 7 p.m.</b>	<b>UUCE</b>
<b>New Year's Workshop</b>	<b>Wed, Jan. 1 9 a.m.-4 p.m.</b>	<b>UUCE</b>
<b>Concert by Shawn &amp; Maizey</b>	<b>Saturday, Jan. 4 or Jan. 11</b>	<b>TBD</b>

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

## Contact Information

<b>Minister</b> Rev. Sara Hayman: 610-2872 (cell) sara@uuellsworth.org	<b>Religious Education Coordinator</b> Anne Ossanna: 565-2057 aossanna@aol.com
<b>Church Office</b> (Tue 9-2, Wed 11-5, Thu 11-4) <b>Administrator</b> Jeffrey Jeude: 667-4393 office@uuellsworth.org	<b>Music Director &amp; Pianist</b> Wayne Smith: 667-9482 wayne@mrlanguage.com
<b>Intern Minister</b> Ariel Aaronson-Eves aaronson-eves@ses.sksm.edu	<b>NUUSletter Editor</b> (submissions deadline: 21st of each month) Margaret Thurston: 271-7974 mhthurs@gmail.com

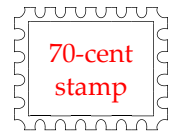
## Board of Trustees

<b>President:</b> Gary Shellehamer to 2021 (667-0034)	<b>Vice President:</b> Beth Pepper to 2021
<b>Treasurer:</b> Gerry Mehl to 2020	<b>Secretary:</b> Susan Opdycke to 2020
<b>Trustee:</b> Margaret Thurston to 2020	<b>Trustee:</b> Christine Bowman to 2021
<b>Trustee:</b> Michael Arruda to 2021	<b>Moderator:</b> John Fink

## Committee and Task Force Chairs

<b>Adult Religious Education:</b> Mary Haynes	<b>Landscaping:</b> <i>vacant</i>
<b>Aesthetics:</b> Linda Laing	<b>Loaves &amp; Fishes:</b> Beth Pepper, Nina Turner; Ann Flynn, Mgr
<b>Auction:</b> Margaret Thurston	<b>Membership:</b> Nancy Avila
<b>Building &amp; Maintenance:</b> Mary Haynes	<b>Pastoral Visitors Team:</b> Nancy Guy
<b>Caring Committee:</b> Sally Francis	<b>Peace and Social Action Ministry:</b> Doug Bird
<b>Charitable Giving:</b> Rev. Sara Hayman, Nancy Guy	<b>Publicity:</b> Susan Opdycke
<b>Choir:</b> Haydée Foreman	<b>Religious Education:</b> Linda Uberseder, Tobias Betancourt
<b>Collaborative Ministry:</b> Mack MacDonald, Gary Shellehamer	<b>Safety:</b> Helen Kazura
<b>Committee on Ministry:</b> Karen Volckhausen	<b>Small Group Ministry:</b> Christine Bowman
<b>Cookie Walk:</b> Rev. Sara Hayman	<b>Stewardship:</b> Bob Francis
<b>Eggroll Project:</b> Susan Opdycke	<b>Sunday Order of Service:</b> send to office@uuellsworth.org
<b>Ferry Beach Registrar:</b> Anne Ossanna	<b>Ushers:</b> Jon Thomas, Ken Hanson, Marc Rich
<b>Fiscal Matters:</b> Connie Bailey	<b>Video Services Coordinator:</b> Lori Johnson
<b>Flowers:</b> Bronwen Day	<b>Wayside Pulpit:</b> Nancy Guy
<b>Governance:</b> Mary Haynes, Robin Lovrien	<b>Website:</b> Lisa Williams, Mike Arruda
<b>Green Sanctuary:</b> Gary Shellehamer	<b>Worldwide Dinner Raffle:</b> Lisa Williams
<b>History/Archives/Library:</b> Wayne Smith	<b>Worship Arts:</b> Lori Johnson
<b>Hospitality Manager:</b> Jeff Jeude	<b>Yard Sale:</b> Beth Pepper, Bill Fogle
<b>Kitchen:</b> Evelyn Foster	<b>Youth Advisor:</b> Bob Dickens

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



# *The NUUS*

## December 2019

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*The NUUS*  
Newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth

December 2019

Vol. 51, No. 12

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.