The NUUS



November 2019 Volume 51, No. 11

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.

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

Sunday, November 3 We Remember Them...

UUCE Choir Sings! First Sunday Potluck! Plate Split Sunday!
Fall Clean-Up After Potluck! UUCE Youth Group 3 p.m.!

Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader Vanessa Williams, Worship Associate

On this Sunday after Samhain, All Saints and All Souls Days, we will make room to remember beloved people and beings who have died. Bring a photo to place on the altar and join with us in honoring our beloved dead as we consider the ancestors we hope to become ourselves.

Sunday, November 10 And I count one, and one, and one....

UUCE Choir Practice 9 a.m.! Special Justice Moment in Worship!

Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader Karen Volckhausen, Worship Associate

The poet Mary Oliver writes, "Attention is the beginning of devotion." We cannot (and will not) love and deeply regard and care for each other—for people, beings, or places—if we do not truly see and notice one another. Only by paying attention and by being present are we able to see and respond in love to the needs of others.

Sunday, November 17

Listening Within:

Marta Rieman, Worship Leader

UUCE Choir Sings! A Modified Quaker Service

An annual tradition in our shared worship life, this Sunday, UUCE member Marta Rieman will lead us in a modified Quaker service. Come and be nourished by silence experienced in loving community.

Wednesday, November 20, at 7 p.m. They Are With Us Still: Transgender Service of Remembrance

On this "Transgender Day of Remembrance," an annual observance that honors the memory of those whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence, we gather in the spirit of love to grieve these tragic deaths and to commit ourselves anew to seeing and celebrating the dignity and worth of all transgender people. All are welcome.

Sunday, November 24 The world begins at a kitchen table.

Silent Joys & Sorrows! New Member Recognition Ceremony!

Special Music by Don Hutchinson!

Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader Ariel Aaronson-Eves, Intern Minister

In her poem, "Perhaps the World Ends Here," United States Poet Laureate Joy Harjo invites us to remember the power of community (love and connection) is nourished at kitchen tables the world over. Who are we inviting into our lives? With whom are we sharing our resources and in what spirit of generosity?



Our plate for November 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.

Ministry Matters

A few weeks ago, I participated in a conversation with UUCE Board members; Ariel Aaronson-Eves, our Intern Minister; and Mary Haynes, who is consulting to the board about policy-based governance. During that meeting, UU consultant Laura Park helped us articulate *this* question that we're excited to bring to the members and friends of UUCE to engage and answer:

Together, how can we courageously deepen and lovingly act on our Unitarian Universalist faith?

You are already a courageous and loving congregation! With your board leaders, I'm excited about the potential we have to deepen and strengthen our capacity to create and share lifeenhancing and life-changing ministries. What do you hope is possible at UUCE? Where do you want to see us go together as a congregation?

What difference do you want UUCE to make in people's lives and the larger community?

As a congregation, we are beautifully poised to begin answering these questions and to more intentionally articulate where we want to go together.

Please plan to join us on **Friday**, **November 15**, **from 5:30 to 9 p.m.** for a congregational workshop that we're confident will help us get there. Dinner will be served and Laura Park will facilitate our sharing and help us articulate and explore our congregation's values, mission and purpose as a part of visioning for the future. Your presence and input matter!

Yours, in shared ministry, *Rev. Sara*

SAFE PARKING

It's great to have a full house on Sundays, but please park in a safe spot: Our lot gets quite crowded, and cars parked along the road too close to the entrance obstruct the view, making it dangerous for both cars and pedestrians when drivers pull out to leave.

We're trying to block off some space along the road with orange cones and to help direct traffic entering for worship.

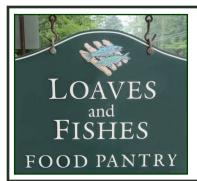
Thank you for your understanding while we work to find a more permanent solution. And thanks to Erik Eagleton for his help!

Church Matters

We have begun going greener and are now printing only 40 worship service bulletins and recycling them after church. Save a tree! Look for the marked box outside the Sanctuary and deposit your used bulletin.

Thank you for getting more comfortable with using the on-screen projection in the Sanctuary to read announcements and follow what's happening in the order of service. If you have suggestions on ways to improve the experience with our in-service slide shows, please pass them along to Lori Johnson, coordinator.





The Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry is in need of clean egg cartons to re-use for packaging up donated eggs. If you have cartons —any size, any material—please leave them in the box beneath the old name tag rack. Loaves & Fishes thanks you!



** PLEASE BE AWARE THERE HAVE BEEN RECENT EMAIL PHISHING ATTEMPTS AGAINST UUCE **

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 IN THE DIRECTORY. IF IT DOESN'T, DO NOT RESPOND. BE ON THE ALERT ESPECIALLY FOR REQUESTS THAT YOU PURCHASE GIFT CARDS OR "COINS" OR THE LIKE FOR SOMEBODY AND THEN FORWARD THE SERIAL NUMBERS. THIS IS A SCAM THAT IS TARGETING CHURCHES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. IF YOU DO RECEIVE SUCH A MESSAGE, PLEASE MAKE THE PERSON WHOSE NAME WAS USED AWARE SO THEY CAN WARN OTHERS IN THEIR CONTACTS LISTS, AND LET THE OFFICE KNOW AS WELL.

SARAH AND GARY WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT NONE OF THE UUCE MINISTER, CHURCH STAFF, OR CHURCH LEADERS WILL <u>EVER</u> EMAIL YOU A REQUEST FOR DONATIONS IN THIS MANNER (NOR IS IT LIKELY THAT ANY REPUTABLE ENTITY WOULD).

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

Church Matters

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

A huge thank-you goes out to our October Hospitality Team: **Christine Bowman** for leading, along with **Lori Johnson**, **Mary Murray**, **Kay Wilkins**, and **Jude Lamb**.

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 November Hospitality Team will include a few new faces, so please be ready to return their smiles! This great team will be led by Marc Rich, 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.



Jeff (in the office) is working on teams for the new year! If you haven't served for a while, or if you are new to UUCE, please send Jeff an email at office@uuellsworth.org or phone call 667-4393 with your choice of month to serve!

Many hands make light work!

~ A NOTE FROM THE OFFICE ~

First and foremost, I want to thank everyone who helped fill in with administrative tasks while I was away in Missouri dealing with a family emergency. It is with a heavy heart that I tell you my oldest daughter's husband passed away the day before my youngest son was married. It was quite a roller coaster of emotions. I could honestly feel the support coming from Maine, and I love each and every one of you who kept me and Jill in the light!

Now, back to work! As we approach the end of tourist season and the beginning of Holiday season, I would like to emphasize the need to communicate your group's meeting needs with the office. Fall and winter are times for renewal, and routine, and finding comfort in familiar surroundings, and I would like to make sure that all who come into this beautiful space at UUCE feel welcomed and at home. If I can be of assistance in helping to make your team or committee or gathering more comfortable, please let me know.

Again, thanks for the support during a very trying time. This congregation is excellent at fulfilling the final phrase of its covenant: "and to help one another."

Jeff

Message from the President

Moving into November, UUCE is also moving further into policy-based governance. We are learning more about how PBG helps with our organizational structure, gives our numerous committees responsibility as they work within their focus areas (and their budgets) to further the mission of the church, and provides a structure of accountability – committees either report to the minister or the board.

We are now at the point that PBG moves beyond the creation of the structure to a place where we look at our beliefs and how we make them a part of visioning the future of UUCE.

The board is tasked with strategic planning for our future. This requires the help of the congregation through discussions within UUCE to determine our core values. The first congregational conversation to define our values will be held **November 15, 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.** The November 15 gathering includes a meal and a facilitated workshop. Join us and make your voice a part of our discussion.

Last month in writing about the workshop, I referred to a line: "If you're gonna do it, do it right" from Joan Armatrading's Help Yourself. In order to do the next step of PBG right, Laura Park of Unity Consultants and author of

The Nested Bowls: The Promise and Practice of Good Governance will be guiding our workshop. Laura calls this step making PBG real. She will help us focus on confirming our values and how they form our mission, impact us individually, guide our



congregation as a group, and live them into the world. Through a number of discussions and activities, the workshop asks the powerful question:

"Together, how could we courageously deepen and lovingly act on our Unitarian Universalist faith?"

As I am writing this, more song lyrics come to mind, this time from a UU hymn:

"There are numerous strings in your lute, let me add my own among them. Then when you smite your chords, my heart will break its silence, and my life will be one with your song."

Please join us on November 15 and for subsequent conversations, adding your own "string to our lute" as we envision UUCE's future together.

Your Board President, Gary Shellehamer president@uuellsworth.org

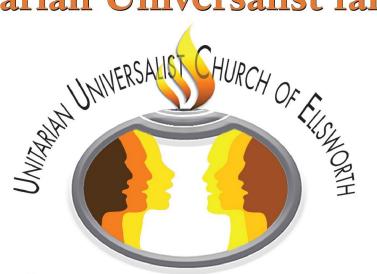
UUCE CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT

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.

Please join us to answer the question:

"Together, how could we courageously deepen and lovingly act on our Unitarian Universalist faith?"



Congregational Conversations

Dinner and Workshop

This guided congregational conversation will explore our values, mission and purpose, and help us vision the future of UUCE

November 15, 2019, 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. at UUCE

Laura Park, writer of the book *The Nested Bowls: The Promise and Practice of Good Governance* and a member of Unity Consulting, will conduct our workshop, designed for churches interested in bringing clarity and focus to their ministry. She provides an engaging, meaningful process for the entire congregation to inform the board's articulation of these foundational policies, our next step as we transition to Policy-Based Governance. This workshop provides inspiration for finding the core of our congregation's purpose and the difference it makes in people's lives.









NEWLY MINTED
OWL FACILITATORS



OWL PARENTS

COME ENJOY THANKSGIVING WITH THE UUCE COMMUNITY! Thursday, November 28 (Thanksgiving Day) at 1 p.m.

The meal is potluck, but we ask that you please sign up for a specific food and bring your own place setting, simple or elegant — your choice!

It's all the fun with none of the stress!

Rev. Sara will join us, and we'll have games and other festive diversions!

Everybody's welcome—friends, family, neighbors, all.

Contact Robin Lovrien, Penel Houghton, or Susan Brenner for information!



Church Matters



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 on the second Tuesday of the month, at 10 a.m. at UUCE. 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 (now the recently arrived Ariel Aaronson-Eves!).

This month, the Collaborative Ministry sponsors the film Amazing Grace, a documentary on Aretha Franklin's gospel roots and her performance at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Los Angeles in 1972. This great film will be shown at the Alamo Theatre in Bucksport on Thursday, November 21, at 6 p.m. Admission is free; donations welcome.



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? Join us November 23 at 2 p.m. for our second Grove Gathering at UUCE. 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.

Brightest Blessings,

Charles and Tobias Betancourt cabetancourt16@gmail.com

UUCE Grove Gathering!





5th ANNUAL UUCE COOKIE WALK



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

Calling on all UUCE cookie bakers: We need dozens and dozens of your beautiful homemade holiday cookies to fill boxes that we'll sell at this year's annual Cookie Walk fundraiser! Our goal this year is to raise \$1,500 to benefit the many ministries of our congregation.

Here's how it works: We set up tables of cookies all around the sanctuary. People buy an empty box (small \$10 or large \$20) and walk around to fill up their box(es). Holiday music is playing and the helpers are wearing goofy hats and having fun! We promote this fundraiser in the larger Ellsworth community and hope people come for cookies that they'll enjoy themselves or give away as gifts. Last year, the *Ellsworth American* ran a full-page story about our Cookie Walk and the public showed up in full force! (We ran out of cookies in 19 minutes, though.)

Are you willing to bake at least 5-7 dozen cookies and deliver them to the church kitchen in sealed and labeled containers (with an ingredient list for display) on Friday, December 13, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., or Saturday, December 14, before 9:00 a.m.? If you are, *THANK YOU, THANK YOU!* Please email me the types of cookies you'll bake at: sara@uuellsworth.org.

We know certain holiday cookies are big sellers! If you're so inspired, we'd love to have more of these cookies this year:

- Mexican Wedding Cookies
- Peanut Blossoms
- Chocolate Crinkles
- Pressed Shortbread



- Chocolate Peppermint Cookies
- Scandinavian Pressed Spice Cookies
- Decorated Holiday Sugar Cookies
- Decorated Gingerbread Cookies

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

Only by understanding where I live can I learn how to live.

~Scott Russell Sanders

I'm eating the last of my blueberry ice cream. A renewable resource, certainly, but also a reminder that summer is over and winter is on its way. I've been so enjoying the cool weather and vibrant colors of October in Maine. I've been spending much of the past month learning this place, in a range of different ways. I've been driving a lot, between the three congregations and around the Blue Hill peninsula, for work, for pleasure, and in search of housing. I've gone on hikes and volunteered on farms, exploring different nuances of the landscape. I'm starting the journey of learning about the histories of indigenous people and colonization in Maine, by watching Dawnland and participating in the mapping activity with Maine-Wabanaki REACH. I am seeking to understand this place, so as to better serve it, so as to better know how to live in it.

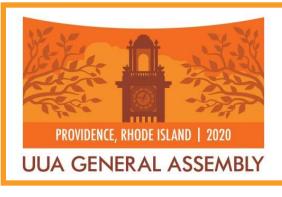
For me, one of the most powerful ways to get to know a place is to become it by ingesting it, to allow the cells grown in and from its soils to become a part of my cells, my body. I recently had to fill out a background check that asked for my addresses from the last seven years. If what I've

been told is true, the cycle of renewal for our bodies' cells is about seven years. So while the background checkers are looking to see if I committed a crime in the past seven years, what they are



asking is, "What are the places that have shaped the cellular body that is you, here, now?" The answer is too long, at least for the form they asked me to use, which became a source of difficulty. But finally on the other side of that process, I can sit in my bittersweet awareness that the magic of Dripping Springs Garden in Huntsville, Arkansas, has sloughed away from me, preserved only in memory. (Interestingly, my quick research points out that the cells of the cerebral cortex, the part of the brain that controls memory, *don't* get replaced.) Yet with each breath and bite I take I am replenished and renewed, by this place. Scott Russell Sanders writes, "There is no division between where we live and what we are." I would add: We change as we move and as the places around us change, inevitably, eternally. I am grateful to be on this transformational journey of life with you.

Ariel Aaronson-Eves
Collaborative Intern, UUCC, UUCB, UUCE
aaaronson-eves@ses.sksm.edu



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!



Exploring Meditation as a Spiritual Practice will next meet on the first Thursday of December (the 5th) from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. at UUCE in the Dolphin Room.

**Please note that Linda is recovering from a recent hospitalization.

If you have an individual meditative practice, or if you simply wish to begin one and want to meditate with a group, please join us. We will answer your questions and offer support for your practice as well as facilitating a group meditation. If you have questions, email or call Rev. Sara.

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Linda Laing & Rev. Sara Hayman



Our Writers' Group meets on Fridays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Call Dartha Reid at 667-5434 if you have any questions!

Peace and Social Action

UUCE PASA believes that we each need to actively participate in our government. Peace and Social Action Ministry 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/exposhelter/. This link has additional information about volunteering and a calendar of activities.

And *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

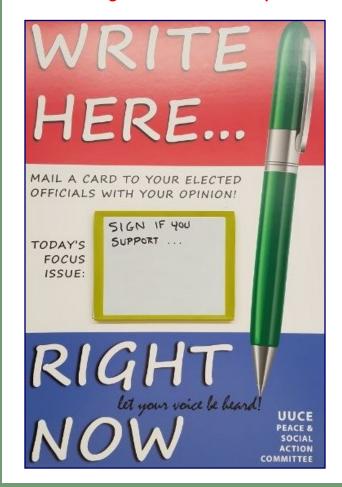


Website https://www.uumfe.org/get-involved/climate-action-network/

Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/<a href="https://

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

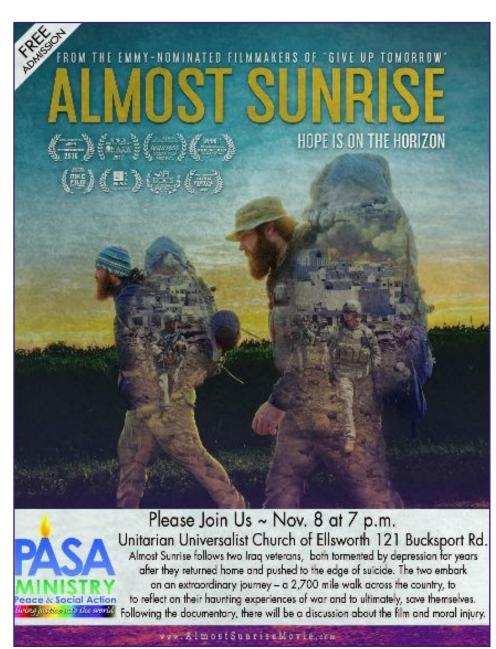
Stop and pick up a postcard when you see this sign in the Community Room!



Peace and Social Action







"The world is waking up and we are the change. The change is coming whether you like it or not."

- Greta Thunberg





MUUSAN

Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network

MUUSAN Network Meeting Saturday, November 9 10 a.m. to Noon UU Community Church of Augusta 69 Winthrop Street

Dozens of UUs and our Maine congregations marched at the recent mass meeting of the Portland stop of the Poor People's Campaign Tour.

Please join us and build the momentum to do M.O.R.E. —Mobilize. Organize. Register. Educate.

The speaker is a UUCE favorite — Rev. Dr. Jodi Cohen Hayashida

For more information, please check the MUUSAN website for: MUUSAN Network Meeting

HELP WANTED!

Not busy enough?! Are you looking for a way to contribute your time and talents to make UUCE an even better place than it already is?

- ♥ The *Caring Committee* needs more members. See Sally Francis (salfrncs@aol.com) if you think the Caring team might be your niche.
- ▼ The Green Team, Landscaping, and Safety committees could all put some more hands to good use.
- ▶ Peace and Social Action Ministry (PASA) always welcomes new members, too. Talk to Doug Bird (birddoug137@gmail.com).
- Or if there's an area that you think needs attention, perhaps with a new team to attend to it, please let Sara or a board member know!

Happenings of Interest



FAMOUS

Clothing Sale

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1, 4-6 SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2, 9-2 **BAG SALE NOVEMBER 2, 1-2**

High Quality Clothing for women, men, and children at rock bottom prices!

37 Miller Street, Belfast - 338-4482 - uubelfast.org

Peace Prayer

Sound Bath Meditation Sunday, November 10 6-7 p.m. **ArtWaves Dance Studio** 1345-A State Highway 102 **Town Hill**

Please join us to chant and pray for peace, to sit in stillness, as well as to share in circle.

Bathe in the healing sounds of bells & bowls, seedpods, shells & drums. This gentle sound bath meditation is offered by Reiki practitioner and sound healing guide Eileen Mielenhausen.

No registration fee; donations gratefully accepted.

Please register here: https:// www.artwavesmdi.org/bookonline/sound-bath-meditationnovember-10-2



THREE UU CHURCHES AT FERRY BEACH - OCTOBER 2019

Religious Education

October was a very busy month as we explored *Belonging*. The children also learned about inventions made by indigenous people, as we watched the video *More Than Bows and Arrows*. Many thanks to Charles Betancourt, Holly Hendricks, and Tori Bell for guiding our children this month with love and intention.

Christine Bowman, Lane Fisher, and Charles Betancourt began facilitating our FIRST-ever OWL class at UUCE. Eight 4th-6th graders from Ellsworth, Castine, and Belfast UU congregations are participating in Our Whole Lives, a lifespan sexuality education curriculum. Their parents have been participating in a parent group as well. Beth Pepper and Gary Shellehamer spent an entire weekend in Portland to be trained as OWL 7th-9th grade and 10th-12th grade facilitators. We are so blessed to have such dedicated and generous adults to facilitate these offerings.

I want to share with you that in December we will have a month-long Faith in Action project and invite the entire congregation to join us. We will have a Reverse Advent, with specific food items donated each day to benefit Loaves & Fishes. There will be boxes in the RE Wing for your donations, and on Monday, December 22, we will take all the donated items to Loaves and Fishes. Thank you for supporting this project.

These are the items needed (please note that the pantry cannot distribute used, opened, or homemade goods):

December 1	box of cereal
December 2	peanut butter
December 3	stuffing mix
December 4	boxed potatoes
December 5	baby food
December 6	baby formula
December 7	baby food
1	

December 8	baby formula
December 9	dessert mix
December 10	jar of applesauce
December 11	canned sweet potatoes
December 12	cranberry sauce
December 13	canned beans
December 14	box of crackers

December 15	baby food
December 16	baby formula
December 17	can of soup
December 18	flour
December 19	sugar
December 20	brown sugar
December 21	spice

November RE Calendar—Theme: ATTENTION

November 3 Children's Chapel after Time for All Ages; a collection will be taken to add to the plate and the children will return to the Sanctuary for the last hymn; Potluck; OWL with Charles and Christine and Parent Group with Anne at 12:30 p.m.

November 10 Exploring *Attention to Our Inner Self* – The Practice of Prayer with Linda & Eric Uberseder; OWL with Lane and Christine and Parent Group with Anne at 12:30 p.m.

November 17 Exploring Attention with Anne;

OWL with Charles and Christine and Parent Group with Anne at 12:30 p.m.

November 27 Exploring *Attention* with Anne;

OWL with Charles and Christine and Parent Group with Anne at 12:30 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE: February 2, 2020 - OWL Parent Information Meeting for parents of children in grades K-1 **SAVE THE DATE**: February 9, 2020 - OWL Parent Information Meeting for parents of teens in grades 7-9

Woyaya, Anne

Sankofa Corner 💝

Rev. Arthur Herbert Coar (1872-1950)

Rev. Arthur Herbert Coar was born in Yonkers, New York on August 26, 1872, the son of Dr. Firman Wood Coar, a Presbyterian/Agnostic dentist from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and Lucinda Elizabeth Blake, a Congregationalist from Boston. His childhood was spent in Germany where he

attended the Kaiser Wilhelm Gymnasium in Köln (Cologne) for four years, but he returned to the United States in his early teens and graduated from West Springfield High School in Massachusetts. He got his B.A. degree from Williams College in 1894, then continued on to the Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge where he obtained his S.T.B. (Bachelor in Sacred Theology) degree in 1897. He completed his M.A. degree at Harvard University in 1898. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

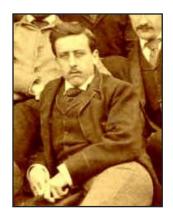
His first pastorate was in Martha's Vineyard for a few months in early 1898, but by the end of the year he had come to Ellsworth to begin a four-year stint as a settled minister. He was ordained by the First Unitarian Society of Ellsworth on January 17, 1899. (His activities at our church will be taken up in a subsequent article.)



Arthur Coar with his HDS classmates in 1895. He is second from the right in the front row. (See enlargement below.)

On October 1, 1902, just as he was about to begin his next pastorate, he was married in the Ellsworth church to Elizabeth Wiggin of Ellsworth, daughter of Sullivan D. B. Wiggin and Abigail L. Hopkins. "Lizzie" had pursued two years of music study at Radciffe College.

From 1902 to 1907, Rev. Coar served the Unitarian Church in Farmington, Maine (now the site of the Farmington Historical Society). While there, he also functioned as the Superintendent of Schools in Farmington from 1903 to 1906.



In 1907, he moved south to Massachusetts and served both the Liberal Christian Congregational Church in Holyoke from 1907 to 1919 and the Unity Church in Amherst from 1907 to 1917. In Holyoke, he became interested in social service and organized the Associated Charities in 1907. He also pursued missionary work in the Connecticut Valley, gave a course of lectures at the Isle of Shoals, and even returned to Maine at the request of AUA President Dr. S. A. Eliot to be in charge of summer work in Hancock County.

In 1918, as the war in Europe was drawing to a close, he took a leave of absence, enlisted as a YMCA Secretary, and went overseas to serve in both England and France, preaching in the Unitarian Churches of England. After the Armistice, he transferred to the British YMCA, and visited prison camps in Wales. He ended his service as Secretary at the Bordeaux Embarkation Camp.

[continued on next page]

[Sankofa Corner, continued from previous page]

After he finished his final year at Holyoke in 1919, he moved on to the All Souls Church in Elizabeth, New Jersey, where he served from 1920 to 1932. While there, as was his custom, he became involved with local affairs. In 1920, he began as a substitute teacher in the Elizabeth public schools, and by 1927, he had become an official tutor for Pingry Private School in Elizabeth. He was also associated with Family Welfare of Elizabeth, was President of the Tuesday Night Club connected with All Souls Church, was a member of the Monarch Club, and worked at promoting the efforts of the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association.

After 12 years at Elizabeth, and a total of 34 years of active ministry in Maine and Massachusetts, he had planned to retire, but the closed First Parish Church in Pembroke, Massachusetts, needed him and he answered the call in 1933. He served them through the war years in spite of failing health and remained there until 1947 when he



was elevated to the rank of Pastor Emeritus. Again, he became active in the community, serving as chaplain of the Pembroke Grange and chair of the local 4-H Club; he was also on the Advisory Board of Selective Service District 95.

His hobbies, in his own words, included: "Gardening (one of my recreational hobbies); also Hiking summers; especially interested in Community service work; ardent advocate of international Fellowship; sorry to say that my academic education offered no opportunity to discuss or training any possible aptitude; philosophical problems always intrigue me."

Rev. Coar died on January 3, 1950, in Fairfax, Virginia, at the home of his son, Robert Joseph Coar, with whom he and Mrs. Coar had spent the Christmas holidays. The visit climaxed a motor trip in which he planned to visit all his former parishes. His funeral was held at the Unitarian Church in Pembroke, Massachusetts, on January 8, 1950, and was conducted by his old friend and colleague Rev. Walter Reid Hunt, who had preceded him as pastor of the First Unitarian Society of Ellsworth.

His obituary in the *Unitarian Register* contained the following: "Arthur Coar's life was given in service to the smaller churches of the Unitarian faith, but it was not a small service. It demanded of him all that he had and he gave freely. Opportunities that might have made some of us hesitate came to him as a challenge. He had three gifts of the spirit which stood him in good stead:

- <u>Courage</u> to undertake any venture that he deemed to be worthwhile. He was a brave man.
- <u>Patience</u> to wait for the result until harvest time. It was his part to sow and cultivate; God would give the increase.
- <u>Spiritual integrity</u>. He had great hopes, a great Faith, but in seeking the grounds and basis of that Faith, he was uncompromising. In a letter written only a few days before his death, he said, 'My Faith must be more than wishful thinking.'"

Wayne Smith
UUCE Historian



* FOR YOUR CALENDAR *

EarthSong Justice Singers Mondays 5:30 p.m. Haydée's, Blue Hill **Collaborative Ministry Team UUCE** Second Tuesdays 10 a.m. Wednesdays 4-5:30 p.m. **Spiritual Eldering Class** UUCE **Tidewater Room** Writers' Group Fridays 1:30-3 p.m. Surviving Your Brain Support Fridays 4-6 p.m. **Dolphin Room** To Be Scheduled Concert by Shawn & Maizey TBD Almost Sunrise Film Fri, Nov 8 7 p.m. UUCE MUUSAN Network Meeting Sat, Nov 9 10-Noon **UU Augusta 69 Winthrop Street** Congregational Workshop Fri, Nov 15 5:30-9 p.m. UUCE **Board Visioning Retreat** Sat, Nov 16 all day UUCE **Alamo Theatre Amazing Grace Film** Thu, Nov 21 6 p.m. **Bucksport UUCE Grounds UUCE Grove Gathering** Sat, Nov 23 2 p.m. Thanksgiving Dinner Thu, Nov 28 1 p.m. UUCE Exploring Meditation Thu, Dec 5 2-3:30 p.m. **Dolphin Room** Cookie Walk Sat, Dec 14 10-11:30 a.m. UUCE

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 <u>first</u> if you think
you have not been receiving the weekly news mailing.
You can contact Jeff at 667-4393 or office@uuellsworth.org
to get on the distribution list or to update your email address.

Contact Information

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

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Committee on Ministry: Karen Volckhausen	Small Group Ministry: Christine Bowman
Cookie Walk: Rev. Sara Hayman	Stewardship: Bob Francis
Eggroll Project: Susan Opdycke	Sunday Order of Service: send to office@uuellsworth.org
Ferry Beach Registrar: Anne Ossanna	Ushers: Jon Thomas, Ken Hanson, Marc Rich
Fiscal Matters: Connie Bailey	Video Services Coordinator: Lori Johnson
Flowers: Bronwen Day	Wayside Pulpit: Nancy Guy
Governance: Mary Haynes, Robin Lovrien	Website: Lisa Williams, Mike Arruda
Green Sanctuary: Gary Shellehamer	Worldwide Dinner Raffle: Lisa Williams
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The NUUS November 2019

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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.