

The NUUS



January 2020
Volume 52, No. 1

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.*

JANUARY WORSHIP SERVICES, 10:30 A.M. This month's worship theme is *INTEGRITY*.

Sunday, January 5 Love Takes Off Masks

First Sunday Potluck!

"Becoming Our Best" Congregational Conversation!

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

This month's Soul Matters worship theme is *INTEGRITY*. What does it take to live a life of integrity? Where do we struggle most to do this, and how do we help and call each other back to the disciplines of authenticity and truth-telling?

~~postponed~~/Sunday, January 12 Living Our 2nd UU Principle

Mid-Maine Youth in Belfast at 3:30 p.m. in Belfast!

Anne Funderburk, Guest Worship Leader
Charles Betancourt, Worship Associate

Our 2nd UU Principle says we covenant to affirm "justice, equity, and compassion in human relationships." In this lay-led service, members of our congregation reflect on the challenges of living this principle in their lives.

Sunday, January 19 Anti-Racist Work: Growing in Integrity

UUCE Choir Sings!

Lane Fisher, Guest Worship Leader
Bob Dickens, Worship Associate

What is all this talk of white supremacy in our denomination, and why did UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray ask us all to read the book *White Fragility* last year? On the eve of Martin Luther King Day, Lane will probe these questions and explore why the ongoing work to dismantle racism calls on us to create both personal and systemic change—to grow in integrity at every level.

Lane was our first collaborative intern in 2016-17. She has been welcomed into preliminary fellowship by the UUA Ministerial Fellowship Committee and will be ordained in Belfast on March 29.

Sunday, January 26 The Best of Intentions

Winter Parish Meeting Following Worship!

Ariel Aaronson-Eves, Intern Minister
Lori Johnson, Worship Associate

Despite our best intentions, we often end up causing harm to others. How do we act as people of integrity in these instances? How do we preserve our faith in our own goodness while being accountable for the damage we nevertheless caused? How do we respect our own integrity and that of those who have been harmed? Join Intern Minister Ariel Aaronson-Eves as she weighs intention versus impact and considers what exactly it means to "assume good intentions."

Sunday Notes

Our plate split for January is with the **Beth C. Wright Cancer Resource Center**. This organization is committed to providing respectful, hands-on, and timely support for citizens of Hancock and Washington Counties, offering hope, knowledge, and support for everyone affected by the disease.



We are short of volunteers to help out with sound system operation as well as PowerPoint preparation and projection for weekly Sunday services. The core group has dwindled recently and these positions are critical to our weekly services. Operating the sound system is not at all technical: training can happen in 15-20 minutes. PowerPoint prep and projection takes a bit more skill and knowledge, so if you are computer- and PowerPoint-savvy and want to join the tech team, we would love to have you! For more information or to express your interest in either of these positions, please see Lori Johnson or email her at Bogey41999@gmail.com or call her at (614) 404-6886.



PLEASE NOTE: The Ellsworth Police Department has informed us that it is illegal (and unsafe) to park on the shoulders of Route 1 outside UUCE. We understand that our small parking lot is overwhelmed on Sundays, and a team is forming to study how best to expand our spaces. Until then, however, we will have to encourage carpooling, possibly using the City Hall lot as a meeting place, and use of the offered Seventh Day Adventist Church lot about 500 steps down the hill from UUCE for those who are up to a short hike. Many thanks for your patience!

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

Our **January Hospitality Team** is eager to usher in the New Year. Led by **Lisa Williams & Beth Pepper**, and surrounded by teammates **Karen Volckhausen, Helen Kazura, Connie Jan Sears, and Amy Thompson**, this team will be happy to serve in the New Year.

The **February** Team is in place, but more helpers are needed for **March and April!** If you haven't served for a while, please contact Jeff at 667-4393 or office@uuelsworth.org with your choice of month to serve in 2020.

Many hands make light work!



Ministry Matters

The snow is flying outside my window at home as I write this.
 Our Christmas tree is still up with the lights on
 and the cats are cozied in nearby on the couch.
 I think they're hoping I'll settle in next to them
 and read a book or take a nap. Maybe I'll do just that.

It's humbling how I seem to forget sometimes that I, too, need time alone,
 need time with a book, with a journal and a cup of tea.

And the wisdom of words from a beloved poem
 I scribbled in notebook years ago come back to me:



"...create
 a clearing
 in the dense forest
 of your life
 and wait there
 patiently,
 until the song
 that is your life
 falls into your own cupped hands
 and you recognize and greet it."

May you, too, find moments of rest and renewal in the cozy and cold of winter's dark.

Yours in shared faith,
 Rev. Sara



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.



BOUNTY FOR BABIES

Thanks to your generosity with the Reverse Advent justice project – “Every Child Is A Holy Child” – we have been able to give the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry a fantastic start on our goal of providing all families with infants who are served by the pantry with the baby food and supplies they need.



The word is definitely getting out that Loaves and Fishes is now able to provide families with baby food and supplies, and the number of requests is growing weekly. Unlike the other food pantries in the area that serve only people from their town, Loaves and Fishes serves families from across Hancock County. Many parents and grandparents were brought to tears last month when they learned they would be able to receive formula, diapers, and other baby supplies at the pantry.

The huge need for infant supplies does not end with the coming of the new year, so our justice project “Bounty for Babies” is now getting started, with plans to keep it going throughout the year. You’ll find a list of suggested supplies in each NUUS and weekly e-newsletter, and on the slides shown before our worship services. Or just ask!

You can put items directly into the collection boxes in the RE wing or donate Hannaford cards, which volunteers will use to shop for the project for you. We gratefully accept donations of baby items not specifically listed for that week or month. Your gifts to the project of time and talent are also most welcome!

Whichever way you might choose to give to Bounty for Babies, we hope that the joy of helping our tiniest and most vulnerable neighbors will fill your heart with joy. Please know that you are helping the youngest children of our communities to be healthy and well fed, and you are helping parents and grandparents ease their fears of not being able to feed their infants adequately.

Thank you so much for continuing to hold this UUCE justice project in your heart! The items most needed for January are:

- ♥ Diapers (size 4, 5, 6), baby shampoo, baby lotion, and diaper rash cream
- ♥ Baby formula and healthy packaged snacks for babies over 1 year old.

BIRTHDAY BAGS

Simultaneously, we are kicking off a justice project called “Birthday Bags” to supply the pantry with the supplies families need to make a birthday cake for a child of any age. Too often families who are served by the pantry cannot stretch their food dollars to cover cake mix or icing, and pantries don’t usually carry these. We don’t want any children served by the pantry to go without a celebration on their birthday! We’re seeking regular donations of the items that will go into the bags, like cake mix, frosting, sprinkles, birthday candles, writing gel, party hats, small toys (little cans of Play-Doh, Silly Putty, bubbles, etc.), and birthday cards that families can sign.



Please see Mary Haynes, Anne Ossanna, Margaret Thurston, Nancy Avila, Robin Lovrien, Doug Bird, or Pepper if you have any questions or would like to help with the project.

UUCE, Loaves and Fishes, and struggling families thank you!

2020 UUCE GOODS & SERVICES AUCTION!



Get ready: this year's auction is coming up
at 5 p.m. on Saturday, February 22!

We will soon be organizing for set-up and clean-up, soliciting businesses, publicity, serving food and drink, accounting, cashiering, and various other jobs.

Forms will be on hand to describe items or events that you might be inspired to offer up for friends and neighbors to bid on. In the past, members have donated all manner of things: antique furniture, sporting gear, canoes, gift certificates, homemade dinners, parties, hikes, ATV outings, picnics, massages, gardening services, chainsaw labor, snow tires, tutoring, music lessons, jewelry, fine crafts, photography, and art!

If you have an idea, but aren't sure about it, just ask Margaret.
A catalog will be available listing all the items available for bid.

Our biggest item will again be a photo safari for two to South Africa, sponsored by Zulu Nyala, a well-run charitable organization that operates a private reserve and promotes education about and conservation of South Africa's stupendous wildlife.

This event will include live and silent bidding and is open to the public.
Proceeds will benefit UUCE and our work, as well as
Loaves & Fishes and several local charities.

Church Matters

**** PLEASE BE VIGILANT FOR EMAIL AND PHONE SCAMS ****



UUCE HAS BEEN TARGETED TWICE NOW. IF YOU RECEIVE AN UNUSUAL MESSAGE THAT APPEARS TO BE FROM REV. SARA OR A 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.

KNOW THAT THE UUCE MINISTER, CHURCH STAFF, OR CHURCH LEADERS WILL NEVER EVER SEND YOU ANY REQUEST FOR DONATIONS IN THIS MANNER, NOR WOULD ANY REPUTABLE ENTITY. ALSO BE AWARE THAT THE IRS OR POLICE OR OTHER GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS DO NOT CALL PEOPLE BY PHONE AND THREATEN OVER 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>

Mark Your Calendars Now:

NEW TO UU CLASS

Offered at UUCE in March!

Four Sunday Sessions, March 1, 8, 15 & 22 from 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Facilitated by Rev. Sara Hayman & Other Guests Facilitators

Registration requested: Email or call the UUCE Office at office@uuellsworth.org or (207) 667-4393

Are you interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism? Are you curious about UU history and theology? Do you wonder where your spiritual journey or personal theology fit into the framework of our liberal religious faith tradition? Would you like to know more about membership and how our congregation works? If you answered yes to any (or all!) of these questions, please consider participating in this class. See Rev. Sara for more information.



Message from the President

I hope that each of you enjoyed and celebrated the season in your own fashion. The cookies were baked (and sold), vespers



were celebrated, the Blue Christmas worship was held, a Christmas Eve potluck followed by a service happened, and there was our famous no-rehearsal Christmas pageant.

Now, as we move into 2020, we are also continuing our shift into Policy-Based Governance--both the organizational change to the church and the **Becoming Our Best** Congregational Conversation that started with the November 15 workshop led by Laura Park of Unity Consulting. From your conversations at that workshop, we are affirming the core values of our church and articulating goals that define the actions we wish to take as we live the values individually, in our church, and into the world.

On January 5, we met for **Becoming Our Best: Continuing the Conversation** to consider the core values that will guide our UCE mission in the coming years. Thank you for being part of the ongoing exploration of how to live our values in this world.



A charge to a newly forming **UUCE Expansion Task Force** is in the works to address the need for more space. As these problems are being reviewed, more immediate solutions to the problems are available. As previously announced, one possible means to address the parking situation is the Seventh Day Adventist Church, located on the Bucksport Road. That church has agreed to the use of the lot behind their church on Sunday mornings unless they are having an event. The walk from there to UUCE's door is only about 500 paces.



We are also scheduled to hold our **January Parish Meeting** this month, January 26, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. following worship and coffee and conversation.

The Belfast, Castine, and Ellsworth UU churches' **Collaborative Ministry Team** is planning a documentary movie at the Alamo (details to come in future weekly e-News mailings), and it's also working on contracting bus transportation for members of our churches to the General Assembly, June 24-28, in Providence, Rhode Island.

You can keep up to date through the weekly e-News and on the church website, as some committees are starting to post information and activities there.

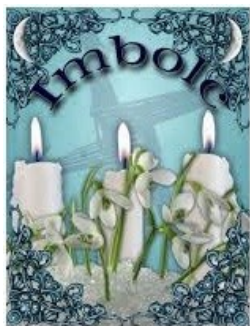
Your Board President,
Gary Shellehamer
president@uuellsworth.org

Church Matters

Grove Gatherings!

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? If you are interested in ritual practice, come join with like-minded individuals in communal sacred space as we explore the divine connection between ourselves and nature.



To honor the wheel of the year more closely, we will not hold a grove meeting in January, but will meet on February 1 to honor Imbolc and then on February 29 for our "regular" session.

Following that we propose this schedule:

Saturday, March 21, to honor the Equinox
 Saturday, April 11, our regular meeting
 Saturday, May 2, Beltaine
 Saturday, June 20, Summer Solstice
 Saturday, July 18
 Saturday, August 29, Lughnasadh
 Saturday, September 19, Mabon

Brightest Blessings,

Charles & Tobias Betancourt



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.



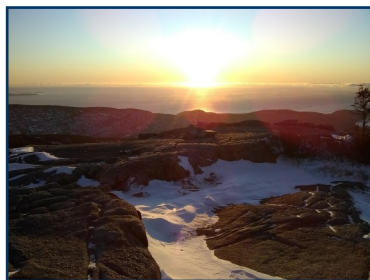
*Writers' Group meets on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.
 Call Dartha Reid at 667-5434 if you have any questions!*

Message from Our Intern

On the morning of the solstice, I woke early. 3 a.m. early, to be exact. I made myself some coffee, bundled up, and then loaded myself, my backpack, and my dog into the car. I drove around the Bay in the pre-dawn hours, and into Acadia National Park. It was my first time there. The road to the top of Cadillac Mountain is closed this time of year, but I decided that nevertheless, I wanted to get there, to catch sight of that solstice dawn before perhaps anyone else in the entire country, so that I could return and say, "I've seen it. Things are dark now, but it will get better. The light will return."

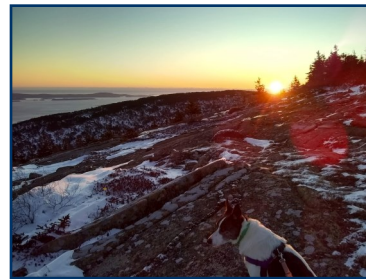
I had done a little research about winter hiking in Acadia, and knew that I could walk up the road to the top of Mount Cadillac, or take the shorter, likely steeper, North Ridge Trail. I decided to opt for the trail. There was only one other person I encountered on the mountain that morning, whose tracks I followed up the unfamiliar, snow-covered trail in the dark. I remain grateful for his footsteps that allowed me to stay on the trail, which hugs the east side of the ridge, so that I might enjoy the colorful glow on the horizon as dawn slowly approached.

In the end, the sun beat me to the top of the mountain. I still had fifteen minutes left to hike to the summit, it turned out, when I



came out onto a ledge and saw the sun's brilliant orb above the horizon. It was 7:07 a.m. Sunrise had come indeed, as I knew it would. I stood, in awe and wonder at this event that happens every single day, yet which I rarely get to see in such grandeur, if at all. And then I hoofed it the rest of the way up the mountain.

At the top of Mount Cadillac, it was too cold and windy to sit and enjoy the view with my coffee and breakfast, but I managed to find a slightly protected place to feed the dog and myself. Having slid on the ice enough times on my gorgeous ascent, I opted to take the slower but safer road down, enjoying the views that the daylight allowed. The dog trotted ahead of me, reminded



me that he was made for athletic, cold-weather adventures. By the time I returned to my car, it wasn't even 9:30.

The light returns, folks. I saw it. Sometimes it requires waking up at god-awful hours. Sometimes it requires traversing dangerous terrain, and you don't always have the footsteps of a trailblazer to follow. Sometimes finding the light requires being cold and hungry, bruised and tired. Hope isn't always easy to find, but it's always out there. A new day will dawn, and may its evidence guide us with courage into the new year.

Ariel Aaronson-Eves

Collaborative Intern, UUCS, UUCB, UUCE

Tea with the Intern!

As your intern minister, I want to get to know YOU better! Please come stop by my office in the RE wing on Thursday, January 16, from 2 to 3 for tea and conversation. I'm looking at making this a monthly event to help me connect with you!



Around the Church

“All for the Birds”

The life and times of
Cordelia Stanwood



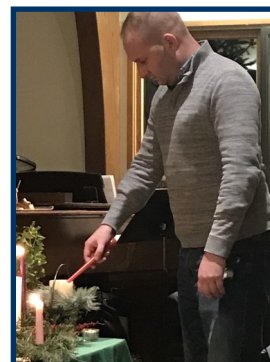
Jude Lamb
portrays
Cordelia Stanwood

At UUCE
Sunday
February 2, 2020
@ 2:30 pm
www.judelamb.com

(This program is aimed at grownups.)



**OUR DECEMBER COOKIE WALK
RAISED OVER \$1,800!!**



**WE FILLED THE NEW BABY
SHELVES AT LOAVES & FISHES!!**





A RECAP OF PASA ACTIVITIES FOR THE FIRST HALF OF FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

Peace And Social Action Mission Statement

Our mission is to coordinate and support the congregation in its efforts to advocate, educate, organize, serve, and witness for peace and social justice; to establish our church as a beacon for social action in our community. As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant to work for a democratic, peaceful, equitable, and earth-friendly world. The Peace and Social Action program is committed to empowering church members to keep this covenant.

The Peace and Social Action Ministry is a committee of the whole; the following task forces took on activities in the first half of the year:

Welcoming Congregation

- The renewal of UUCE status as a [Welcoming Congregation](#) is almost complete. The UUA revised its criteria partway through the process, requesting more detailed information; this has been supplied.
- A Transgender Day of Remembrance Service was held in November. Images of those who lost their lives were shown and a description of the individual was read.
- The New Pride flag inclusive of transgendered, people of color, and those living with or who have died from HIV/Aids is now hanging from the Wayside Pulpit.
- An article is being written for publication in Ellsworth American on the history of the Welcoming Congregation for publication in February or March.
- Cookie Ministry continues to deliver snacks to the Ellsworth High School Gay/Straight/Diversity Alliance every Wednesday of the school year.

[...continued]

Peace and Social Action

[PASA RECAP, continued:]

Decolonization and Us

- Indigenous Peoples' Day Maine Map Service was held in October. [Wabanaki Reach](#) provided the map and script.
- A special tour of the [Abbe Museum](#) with a focus on decolonization—led by Starr Kelly, Director of Education at the Abbe—was attended by 12 individuals.
- Coming events:
 - Decolonizing Faith Workshop developed by Carie Johnson of the [Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta](#) with Maine-Wabanaki REACH will be held January 29, 2020.
 - Book study of [An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States](#) by Roxanne Dunbar to be held in three sessions on February 13, February 27, and March 12, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. This was a recommended read from the UUA and there is a study guide for it prepared by the UUA. It will also include supplemental readings specific to Wabanaki.

Green Team

- Is coordinating with Ellsworth Area Green Team (EGAT).
- Has improved recycling at UUCE.
- [Window Dressers](#) workshops have been advertised and attended by members.

Write Here/Right Now - Calling from the Boardroom

- Monthly the congregation is called to write postcards to our congressional delegation on a topic that PASA member(s) brings our attention. We have listed our delegates and their contact information in the weekly e-news.
- As an alternative to writing postcards, we are also urging members to “Call from the Boardroom.” Doug Bird has been in the Boardroom to facilitate this activity.

Also:

- PASA supported the Blueberry Rakers Fairs.
- PASA is responsible for promoting the [Guest at Your Table](#).
- PASA has a member who attends and reports back/promotes [MUUSAN](#).
 - Of particular note is the [Poor Peoples March on June 20, 2020](#).

[...continued]

Peace and Social Action

[PASA RECAP, continued:]

- As a committee, PASA has added the word “Ministry” when our name is written out, to emphasize the active nature of our work from the heart. We developed the logo now in use.
- As a committee, we developed PASA policies on:
 - Membership
 - Request for Endorsement
 - Voting on endorsements
- We have identified some opportunities, but **need point persons for:**
 - [A Family for ME](#): We would like this person(s) to act as a coordinator:
 - For hosting a foster parent informational meeting at UUCE.
 - Displaying a Heart Gallery photo display at UUCE.
 - **Family movie night** in coordination with RE.

living justice into the world

PASA’s “Decolonizing Faith” Workshop

**Wednesday, January 29
4:00 - 6:30 p.m. at UUCE**

<<>>

This workshop is intended for people of faith who desire to build right relationships with Indigenous people of this land.

Through presentation, discussion, film, and activities, we will begin to explore the role of the churches in the colonization of this country and learn about the impacts of colonization on Indigenous peoples.

We hope through this work to be able to identify acts of decolonization that repair harm, promote justice, and heal relationships through acknowledgement, accountability, and action.

This workshop will be just a beginning; we will provide resources for you to continue this process going forward.

A \$10 donation at the workshop is requested, but no one will be turned away.

Minimum 15—maximum 25 participants.

To register please email office@uuellsworth.org by January 27.

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!



Peace and Social Action

The Senate will be sworn in as jurors on Thursday and the impeachment trial begins!

**Call Senator Susan M. Collins at (202) 224-2523 and
Senator Angus S. King Jr. at (202) 224-5344.**

When you reach an aide, leave the following message:

Hello, my name is _____ calling from zip code _____ in _____. The Senate must hold a fair and public trial — with witnesses and evidence — to fully vet the case against President Trump. Anything less would be a violation of the Senate's oath.



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

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

Peace and Social Action



Join Us for 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 PASA 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.

Group meeting time has been updated to **every other Thursday at UUCE at 2 p.m.** **The next meeting dates will be 12/26, 1/9, 1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3/5 and 3/19.** The individual registration fee is \$135 with the group discount. 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: https://oneearthsangha.org/programs/2019-ecosattva-training/registration/?code=EST19GRP87&groupname=UUCE_PASA to register.

Contact Barbara Acosta at drabarb@gmail.com or Doug Bird at birddoug137@gmail.com before registering so you can get the group discount.

EarthSong



Climate & Justice

For info: 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.

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!

Religious Education

Winter Greetings from the Carl Stehman Wing! WOW, what a full month we had! Our first-ever grade 4-6 OWL class graduated. Thank you, Christine, Charles, and Lane, for being AWESOME facilitators, and thank you, parents, for making sure your children attended and for being so engaged in our parent group. I am delighted to report we will be offering two more OWL classes in 2020, this late winter into spring. Our children in grades K-1 and 7-9 will have classes with parent information meetings in February; see flyers.

We spent three weeks working on Holy Day gifts; thank you, Charles and Tobias Betancourt for leading crafts. Then we had our no-rehearsal pageant. That was fun! The last Sunday of the decade we had a birthday party for all of the children. Each child, and some adults, got a "Happy Birthday" song and a birthday cupcake. Many thanks to Linda Uberseder for baking for us.

Anne will be on vacation January 14-25. Rev. Sara is on vacation and study leave during this time, so Board President Gary Shellehamer and Church Administrator Jeffrey Jeude will be in contact if needed. Linda and Eric Uberseder will oversee RE on January 19.

January RE Calendar

- January 5** Children's Chapel with Anne (a collection will be taken to add to our plate, and children will return to the Sanctuary for the final hymn); Potluck Sunday
- January 12** Exploring *Integrity* with Anne
- January 19** Exploring *Integrity* with Linda and Eric Uberseder
- January 26** Exploring *Integrity* with Anne



**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 includes dinner, dessert, breakfast and any guest speaker fees)

RSVP: Registration forms due to your DRE by March 9

Sankofa Corner



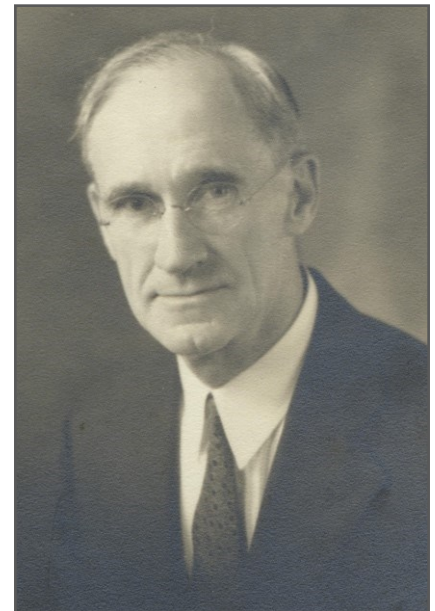
Rev. Charles Gustavus Girelius, 1873-1960

Rev. Charles Gustavus Girelius was born in Baldwin County, Georgia, on January 24, 1873, to Swedish Lutheran parents Daniel Gustaf Girelius, a farmer, and Anna Regina Dufva. Several of his ancestors were clergymen in Sweden. His family moved to Vineland, New Jersey, when he was less than four years old and he spent the rest of his childhood in Vineland.

Young Charles became "converted" at a revival meeting to Methodism and became a "Methodist Exhorter" in Sunday School at the age of 18. Early on he became familiar with the work of the liberal Bishop Tegner of Sweden. He described himself at the time in this way: "I was theologically orthodox, but I accepted the Theory of Evolution as a matter of course, even before I entered college." He studied at Pennington Seminary in Pennington, New Jersey, until 1895, then completed his college and theological education in New England, with an A.B. from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, in 1899 and an S.T.B. from Boston University's School of Theology in 1902. Finally, he took a summer course at the New York School of Social Work in 1912.

Rev. Girelius was ordained deacon in the New England Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Spencer, Massachusetts, on April 14, 1901, and he served the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist-Episcopal Church from 1902-1908. He was ordained as an elder in the Baltimore Conference in Washington, DC, on April 2, 1905. Experiencing a shift in his religious orientation, he entered the Presbyterian Church in April 1908 and served the Bethany Presbyterian Church in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, part of the Northumberland Presbytery, from 1909-1912.

By this time, his goals had shifted and he went into social service work. He served various children's aid societies in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, including the nondenominational Russell Sage Foundation 1912-1913, the New Jersey Children's Home Society from 1913-1920, and the Henry Watson Children's Aid Society from 1920-1924. In the midst of these activities, on October 21, 1914, he married his wife, Velma Viola Yocum, at the Old Swede's Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. They had one daughter, Velma Annette, who was born on October 2, 1915.



By the early 1920s, theological difficulties arose and he formally resigned from the Presbyterian Church in April 1923. By that point he had already joined the First Unitarian Church of Baltimore, Maryland as a layman in 1922, and on April 16, 1924, he applied for admission into the fellowship of the Unitarian ministry and served as a supply minister in Baltimore from 1924-1925.

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[Sankofa Corner, continued from previous page]

Rev. Girelius's first Unitarian pastorate was here in Ellsworth from 1926-1929 where, according to the records in his file at the Harvard Divinity School Library, he did an "unusually fine piece of work." In addition to preaching, he would also become chairman of the Ellsworth Red Cross, chairman of the Ellsworth committee of the State Board of Children's Guardians, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Maine Conference of Social Workers.

Rev. Girelius began work at Ellsworth on January 1, 1926, and first preached here two days later. His salary was \$1100/year plus a sustentation allowance of \$400. What follows are a number of quotes from his letters to the American Unitarian Association:

- Jan. 13, 1926: *"We have had some beautiful winter weather. The only drawback is the need of incessantly putting fuel (wood) in the heater...Now I am ready to go ahead with the work. The work is sadly in need of organization. But the people are looking for that and earnestly desiring it, and the outlook is therefore hopeful."*
- Jan. 4, 1927: *"Finances are improving, but the Trustees seem to have no ideas of sunning church business systematically...The Women's Alliance is doing good work and is actually the backbone of the church. The Laymen's League is a disappointment...There has been no new enrolment of members since 1922."*
- Oct. 2, 1927 - *"Mrs. Girelius says I preached one of my best sermons yesterday. Perhaps she is right. My subject was 'What Is Man?' and I touched on the doctrine of evolution. One of my hearers said she had always felt a certain repugnance toward evolution, did not quite like the idea of having a brute ancestry, but that I had made the idea of evolution so attractive that she got over her repugnance."*
- Jan. - Feb. 1928 - Rev. Girelius published a series of sermons called "What Do Unitarians Believe?" under the following covenant: "In the love of truth, and in the spirit of Jesus, we unite for the worship of God and the service of man." The contents included thoughts about the Bible, God, Jesus, immortality, salvation, life, and service.
- Feb. 22, 1928 to Rev. Walter Reid Hunt: *"I do want to leave Ellsworth. The climate is evidently too severe for Mrs. Girelius, and none of us like the short cool summers. Two or three years in a place like this is about all a man can give satisfactorily. I have worked overtime, with little or no vacation, and I need a change. The people are most delightful personally, and most kind. But I can't get them to co-operate in the work in an organized capacity. I had forty of them working together splendidly in a Christmas Pageant, under my direction, but I can't get the Trustees to hold a meeting on their own initiative, not can I get the Treasurer to give a report to the Annual meeting of the Parish, - and the Parish lets the Treasurer get away with it! It is about the same in all of the other churches here; so this condition is evidently Ellsworthian."*

In 1929 he published a pamphlet entitled *Salvation of Man*. He also published some Unitarian hymns, and wrote articles for a number of journals, including: *Unity*, *Christian Register*, *Christian Leader*, *Zion's Herald*, and a few poetry magazines. He also produced a bibliography entitled *Village Perspective*.

- March 20, 1929 to Rev. George F. Patterson: *"You would, I know, like to hear something about Ellsworth. I have no great advances to report. Still the church here is holding its ground. There has been a great deal of sickness to interfere with attendance and activity."*

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[Sankofa Corner, continued from previous page]

Measles interfered with church school attendance in the fall, and for a time closed the school altogether. Church attendance has averaged 35 since Christmas. We had a successful Christmas Pageant. All bills have been paid without serious difficulty, and subscriptions for this year are fully up to last year. The Women's Alliance is on the job. The Laymen's League under Mr. Morang's absentee leadership is dead. The men leave everything for the women to do. The Board of Trustees is inactive, but I have gotten it to appoint a Finance Committee, and that Committee is looking after the finances. The Women's Alliances has added \$100 to my salary. Including that, I am now receiving from the church \$1350... I have been disappointed and restless because it seemed impossible to make any considerable progress here. Yet I suppose I have reason to feel that we have been doing fairly well, under the circumstances. If I could start a 'revival' and create a real zeal for the church, something would happen, but that would be looking for a miracle. As compared with the other churches, we are doing quite well. The lack of young people and children in our Unitarian families is our big drawback. I am evidently holding my own personally with the people, in spite of the fact that I have refused to be a hidebound Republican. The people have treated my family and me very decently... With all its faults, the Ellsworth Unitarian Church is a fairly harmonious group."

Rev. Girelius left his settlement at Ellsworth on December 1, 1929.

From 1929-1931, he was the settled minister in Jamestown, New York, where he was also a member of the Executive Committee of the Chautauqua County Children's Aid and a member of the Scandinavian group, the Norden Club. From 1931-1933, between church settlements, he did volunteer work at the Public Welfare Office in Dunkirk, New York, and he was also secretary-treasurer of the Meadville Conference from 1930-1931. From 1934-1939 he was the settled minister in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was also president and board member of the Travelers Aid Society, treasurer and board member of the New Orleans Library League, a member of the State Committee on Transient Labor, and helped organize the Louisiana League for the Preservation of Constitutional Rights. He also became formally fellowshiped with the Universalist General Convention on July 12, 1934. From 1939-1940 he worked as a supply preacher in Sudbury and Hyde Park, Massachusetts. He also did volunteer work in Naturalization Aid at the Massachusetts State House and became active in the Masons. From 1941-1952 he served as the settled minister in Barneveld, New York.



On June 20, 1960, he died at his home in Havertown, Pennsylvania, at the age of 88.

Rev. Girelius described himself as follows: *"Enthusiastic gardener. Poetry. Constant student of the world-scene. I am constantly wanting to mingle with both radical and conservative groups, with a desire to understand them, and to know what is happening in the world. I admit that I am socially-minded, but I am not a radical."*

He described his 'dominant conviction' in the following words: *"As I see the world in which we live, this is the time for a religious awakening, and this should begin in the liberal churches. The world is in dire need of a religious message, not other-worldly, but with a vision of what human society can become. It is a time for an earnest prophetic message from the pulpit. But to this end there must be cooperation between churches and ministers."*

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[Sankofa Corner, continued from previous page]

As yet, however, the defeatist attitude of most of our churches and many of our ministers is making a forward religious movement ineffective. We need to be aroused as by a trumpet voice to the spirit of the line by John Haynes Holmes, 'The voice of God is calling,' the liberal modern interpretation of 'Thus saith the Lord.'"

AUA President Dana Greeley, wrote of him: "Modest in nature, he had a clear and penetrating insight which was expressed not only in the written word, but also in a true ministry to humanity."

Dale DeWitt said of him: "Charles Girelius was not only a sympathetic minister, patient, wise, and friendly. He was a scholar, poet, and man of wide affairs. While basically conservative in religious position, he was generous minded and always understanding of other positions. He was given the honor of producing the Unitarian Lenten manual for the year 1945 and it was done with depth of religious feeling and poetic sense. It was an important privilege to know him, to be professionally associated with him, and to have the quiet visits in the comforting, old-fashioned parsonage in Barneveld."

Wayne Smith

UUCE Historian



Multi-Church Summer Retreat

The ocean is calling you for a long weekend (August 21-24, 2020) of relaxation, spirituality, creativity, music, worship, s'mores, bonfires, swimming, dancing, workshops, and delicious food with members of the UU Belfast and Castine congregations.



Registration for our multi-church summer retreat begins Sunday, February 23, and continues each Sunday after worship until Sunday, May 10. A \$25 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit is due for each attendee when you register. The balance is due by May 10. The fee for adults sharing a dorm room, with meals, is \$325. Ferry Beach has changed its deadlines and no refunds will be made for cancellations after May 17. Some partial scholarships are available. Please see Anne Ossanna for a confidential request.

There are no hotel options this year. On-site shared dorm rooms are just steps away from the ocean. The ADA rooms and campground are a short walk to the ocean. The fee includes housing for three nights, housekeeping, all programming and nine delicious all-you-can-eat meals. There is a lobster option for Sunday dinner at a cost of \$13 per lobster; this must be ordered and paid for by May 10.



* FOR YOUR CALENDAR *

EarthSong Justice Singers	1st, 3rd Mondays 5:30 p.m.	UUCE as of January
EarthSong Justice Singers	2nd, 4th Mondays 5:30 p.m.	Haydée's, Blue Hill
Collaborative Ministry Team	2nd Tuesdays 10 a.m.	UUCE
Spiritual Eldering Class	Wednesdays 4-5:30 p.m.	UUCE
Writers' Group	Tuesdays 1:30 p.m.	Tidewater Room
Surviving Your Brain Support	Fridays 4-6 p.m.	Dolphin Room
Tea with Your Intern	Thu, Jan 16 2-3 p.m.	Ariel's Office, RE
EcoSattva Training	Thu, Jan 23, Feb 6 10 a.m.	UUCE
Parish Meeting	Sun, Jan 26 12:15 p.m.	Sanctuary
Decolonization Workshop	Wed, Jan 29 4-6:30 p.m.	UUCE
Grove Gathering for Imbolc	Sat, Feb 1 2 p.m.	UUCE
Grove Gathering	Sat, Feb 29 2 p.m.	UUCE
Goods & Services Auction	Sat, Feb 22 5 p.m.	UUCE
Concert by Shawn & Maizey	[to be rescheduled]	UUCE
New to UU Class	Sundays in March 12:30-2:30	UUCE
Equinox Grove Gathering	Sat, Mar 21 2 p.m.	UUCE
Lane Fisher's Ordination!	Sun, Mar 29 4 p.m.	UU Belfast

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
to get on the distribution list or to update your email address.

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 & Pianist Wayne Smith: 667-9482 wayne@mrlanguage.com
Intern Minister Ariel Aaronson-Eves aaronson-eves@ses.sksm.edu	NUUSletter Editor (submissions deadline: 21st of each month) Margaret Thurston: 271-7974 mhthurs@gmail.com

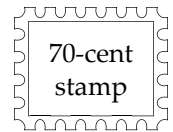
Board of Trustees

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

Committee and Task Force Chairs

Adult Religious Education: Mary Haynes	Landscaping: <i>vacant</i>
Aesthetics: Linda Laing	Loaves & Fishes: Beth Pepper, Nina Turner; Ann Flynn, Mgr
Auction: Margaret Thurston	Membership: Nancy Avila
Building & Maintenance: Mary Haynes	Pastoral Visitors Team: Nancy Guy
Caring Committee: Sally Francis	Peace and Social Action Ministry: Doug Bird
Charitable Giving: Rev. Sara Hayman, Nancy Guy	Publicity: Susan Opdycke
Choir: Haydée Foreman	Religious Education: Linda Uberseder, Tobias Betancourt
Collaborative Ministry: Mack MacDonald, Gary Shellehamer	Safety: Helen Kazura
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
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
History/Archives/Library: Wayne Smith	Worship Arts: Lori Johnson
Hospitality Manager: Jeff Jeude	Yard Sale: Beth Pepper, Bill Fogle
Kitchen: Evelyn Foster	Youth Advisor: Bob Dickens

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



The NUUS

January 2020

The NUUS
Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth

January 2020

Vol. 52, No. 1

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.