



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

JUNE WORSHIP SERVICES, 10:30 a.m.

This month's worship theme is COMPASSION.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

Our Annual 3-Church Worship Service: Pandemic as Practice

Rev. Shayna Appel, Guest Worship Leader; Ariel Aaronson-Eves, Worship Associate

The corona virus pandemic has certainly impacted all of our lives in the moment. What are the lessons we have learned from it and will bring forward with us when it comes to pass?

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

Courageous Love & Living Covenant

Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader

What is the relationship between Courageous Love, our first of four recently adopted Core Congregational Values, and living and practicing our covenant? Where does it get hard? How do we get better at doing this? How will you live Courageous Love as a part of our UUCE community and in your life?

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

Annual Flower Communion Service

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

We are dreaming up the way we will celebrate our annual Flower Communion Service! More information to come and we hope you will join us for worship.


SUNDAY, JUNE 28

UUA General Assembly Sunday Morning Worship

Rev. Joan Javier-Duval, Worship Leader

On this Sunday, our UUCE community will attend virtually the Sunday Morning Worship Service at our annual General Assembly. More information about how we will do this will be forthcoming. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience the larger community of Unitarian Universalists.

A VIDEO MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER

This month, I've recorded  my Ministry Matters column, something I have more confidence to do now, after 12 weeks of worshipping with you on ZOOM.

The essence of my message is gratitude: gratitude for all of YOU who continue to bring our congregation more and more to life. It is an honor to be in ministry with you.

Rev. Sara



Click [HERE](#) or image above to view 8-minute Vimeo video of Rev. Sara speaking her Ministry Matters column.





WEDNESDAY MORNING MATINS AT 8AM

A NEW WEEKLY VIRTUAL WORSHIP INVITATION FROM REV. SARA

Wednesday Morning Matins at 8am
on ZOOM

All are welcome to attend and participate in this half-hour morning matins gathering, a contemplative worship time. Here, Rev. Sara will hold space for us to begin our day intentionally in community with silence, music, varied meditation offerings and invitations to share. Look for the ZOOM invite in our Wednesday e-news, on our UUCE closed Facebook group each week. If you can't find the invite, email or text Sara at sara@uuellsworth.org or 207-610-2872.



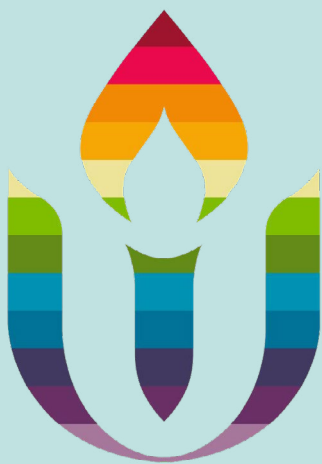
ANCHORING OUR LIVES IN OUR VALUES

A NEW SPIRITUAL DEEPENING CLASS WITH REV. SARA

Six Wednesday Afternoons from 4-5:30pm:
June 17, July 1, July 15, July 29, August 12 and August 26

Our congregation just voted to adopt these four core congregational values – Courageous Love, Whole-Hearted Connection, Awe and Authenticity. In this discussion and sharing-based class, we will wrestle with what each of these values means to us in our individual lives and in our shared lives as members and friends of our UUCE community. Participants will be asked to prepare for each session by doing assigned readings, as well as thinking about reflection questions. This class will be conducted on ZOOM.

Registration through the church office is required.
To register email office@uuellsworth.org or call 207-667-4393.
Registration Deadline is June 12th at 5pm.
Attendance at all six sessions is strongly encouraged.
Minimum of 8 people for class to happen and maximum of 14 participants.



UUCE'S AFFIRMATION OF COVENANT

Love is the spirit of this church,
and service its law;
this is our great covenant:
to dwell together in peace,
to seek the truth in love,
and to help one another.

GOOD-BYE CELEBRATION FOR ARIEL AARONSON-EVES

ON ZOOM, FRIDAY JUNE 5, 2020 AT 6PM

Folks from all three of our churches are warmly invited and encouraged to attend! We have been blessed to have Ariel with us this past year as our 4th Collaborative Intern Minister. Help us send her off with our gratitude and best wishes.

SPECIAL INVITATION: Please send me (Sara Hayman) an email (rev.sara.hayman@gmail.com) or a brief video you record on your phone (also via email) by Wednesday, June 3rd at 8pm that tells us (and Ariel!) what you appreciated about her time with us and your hopes for her future ministries.

Help spread the word, too!

ZOOM INVITE:

Good-Bye Celebration for Ariel
Aaronson-Eves!

Time: Jun 5, 2020 06:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/94296667657>

Meeting ID: 942 9666 7657

Phone: 646-876-9923



SENDING PEACE & LOVE



We are sending Peace and Love to all of you. Our children have enjoyed being together on the 1st and 4th Sunday in May for Children's Chapel. It has been good to see each other, maintain some of our rituals and share events that are happening during this time of physical distancing. Here is our altar, with our singing bowl, chalice, rocks and

flowers from Happytown Farm. The flowers are different each time we meet, but they are always beautiful. Lesson plans and coloring pages were emailed to parents each week focusing on our monthly theme of Thresholds. One of our Lesson Plans focused on the Door of Growth. During this pandemic, our children have indeed grown and completed many milestones. There have been birthdays, pets adopted, baby teeth lost, training wheels taken off bikes and I am sure many other events in the Circle Game. Several members of our congregation helped celebrate Maeve turning 10 by having a Drive-By Parade on her 10th Birthday. It was a blast. If you have a special milestone in your family you want celebrated, please reach out to me and I will do my best to make that happen. Shout out to Linda Uberseder who assisted with Children's Chapel in May.

In June we will explore Compassion through weekly email Lesson Plans and Children's Chapel. We also will have a modified RE Sunday and Bridging for Ian Brenner-Simpson during worship service on June 14th, who is graduating from Ellsworth High School in June. Our Bridging will be different this year, but we count on you to make it meaningful and beautiful for Ian. I am asking each of you to email me with a special message you would like me to write for Ian in a copy of *Oh the Places You'll Go* by Dr. Seuss, a gift to Ian from our congregation. Please email me your message to: aossanna@aol.com by June 12th.

You also are invited to participate in a drive-by Bridging for Ian on June 14th at UUCE in our parking lot from 2:00-2:30 pm. Ian will be standing on our UUCE bridge in the circular garden near the entrance to church. You are invited to slowly drive by and send well wishes while you remain in your vehicle. A basket will be available for you to drop off a card, note or small gift to Ian. This is not a time to congregate, but to show Ian some UUCE love as we remain physically distant. The building is closed, but church has definitely remained and continues to remain open.

~ Woyaya - Anne

JUNE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

June 7: Children's Chapel with Anne and Linda from 9:30-10:00 am. A Lesson Plan will be sent out to parents prior to Sunday.

June 12: Club Quarantini Parent Zoom Happy Hour from 8:00-9:00 pm

June 14: Modified RE Sunday and Bridging for Ian Brenner-Simpson; DRIVE-BY Bridging at UUCE in the parking lot from 2:00-2:30 pm. You may not congregate in the parking lot; brief well wishes and cards, notes, small gifts are welcome and can be placed in a basket from your vehicle.

June 21: Children's Chapel with Anne and Linda from 9:30-10:00 am

June 26: Club Quarantini Parent Zoom Happy Hour from 8:00-9:00 pm



OUR THRESHOLD

In addition to recognizing those who gave their lives in service, for me Memorial Day was a day to stop and just be. To breathe, reflect, and plan.

May Soul Matters focus was on thresholds and called attention to thresholds being not just the act of stepping into something new, but also a chance to pause before entering a future always filled with some unknown. Recently, due to the pandemic, we were moved through a threshold into a unique time with health and economic systems being uncertain. While physically distancing ourselves, UUCE has had to make changes not just for the sake of safety but also for maintaining and strengthening our connection. We individually have had to deal with staying healthy at home, dealing with a wide range of emotions, evolving new actions, and looking beyond coping to envisioning a future.

In addition to making changes (how we maintain our community and show our care and concern for each other; ways we hold worship and do the business of the board, committees; and the day-to-day of the church), we have also paused as we move further in to Policy-Based Governance's Nested Bowls actions . The Nested Bowls concept includes the Becoming Our Best conversations you have been having, using your own words to name our beloved community's core values,

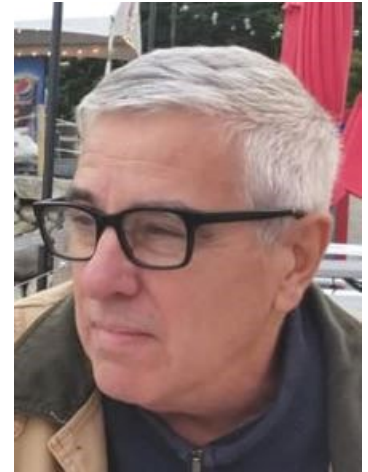
apply those values to our actions of our mission, and arrive at ends that plan and focus those actions and those they benefit.

With a number of opportunities and decisions facing us, we are also at the start of our 2020-2021 Fiscal Year: we have people to thank; a treasurer and two board members to elect; core values, end statements and a concern that grew out of your Becoming Our Best conversations to discuss and use to envision the next 5 years at UUCE; and financials to review and a final budget to adopt.

By the time you read this, the meeting will have happened. We have paused in the threshold, and now, with more discussion and planning, we are beginning to move forward into UUCE's future. The future is always an uncertainty. However together, by considering future plans, keeping communication open, and looking at possibilities, we can plan and act.

Thank you for being a part of the conversations.

Gary Shellhamer, UUCE Board President



OUR PLATE SPLIT for JUNE is Next Step Domestic Violence Project, offering help to those experiencing intimate partner abuse, stalking, and dating violence in our community.



Next Step
Domestic Violence Project
Hancock & Washington Counties, Maine

MULTI-CHURCH SUMMER RETREAT AUGUST 21-24, 2020



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.

Anne has been in contact with Ferry Beach since early March and has been assured that if you are registered for our retreat, you may cancel and receive a full refund (minus \$25.00 non-refundable deposit) up to 2 weeks before the retreat. Your balance is not due until August 2. Please mail the registration form on the following page and your \$25.00 deposit (made payable to UUCE with Ferry Beach in the memo line) per person to Anne:

Anne Ossanna
69 Great Pond Road
Franklin, ME 04634

Limited partial scholarships are available. Please contact Anne Ossanna for a confidential request.

Please reach out to Anne if you have any questions: aossanna@aol.com



Adults 18+ \$325.00 each (includes shared dorm room, housekeeping, programming and 9 meals)

Adults 18+ \$375.00 each (includes ADA double room, housekeeping, programming and 9 meals)

Youth 9-17 \$130.00 each (includes shared dorm or campsite with parent(s), housekeeping, programming and 9 meals)

Children (age 8 and under) \$25.00

Tent sites are \$120.00 per site for 3 nights; RV sites are \$144.00 per site for 3 nights; Large RV sites are \$150.00 per site for 3 nights

Adult 18+ Camper Plan \$150.00 per person (includes programming and 9 meals)

Day pass for individuals not staying overnight on campus \$10.00 per day per person plus \$25.00 Registration fee to cover programming. Meals not included.

A la cart meals: Breakfast \$15.00 adult/\$11.00 youth/free ages 8 and younger; Lunch \$15.00 adult/\$14.00 youth/free ages 8 and younger; Dinner \$22.00 adult/\$17.00 youth/free ages 8 and younger.

Lobster for Sunday dinner \$13.00 per lobster.

MULTI-CHURCH RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM (print this page and mail to Anne with deposit)

Registration goes through May 10th. You are registering for 3 nights housing (dorm or campsite), 9 meals and housekeeping fee. Note: A non-refundable \$25.00 registration fee is due at registration.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Who will be attending the weekend?

Name	Adult 18+	Youth 9-17	Under 8
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

Totals:

- ___ Adults 18+ at \$325.00 each (includes shared dorm room, housekeeping and 9 meals)
- ___ Adults 18+ at \$375.00 each (includes double ADA room, housekeeping and 9 meals)
- ___ Youth 9-17 at \$130.00 each (includes shared dorm/campsite, housekeeping and 9 meals)
- ___ Children (under age 8) \$25.00
- ___ Tent Sites at \$120.00 per site for 3 nights
- ___ RV/Sites at \$144.00 per site for 3 nights
- ___ Large RV at \$150.00 per site for 3 nights
- ___ Adult 18+ Camper Meal Plan/Registration \$150.00 per person
- ___ Lobster on Sunday, August 23rd at \$13.00 per Lobster
- ___ Day Pass \$10.00 per day/per person for those staying off campus and \$25.00 per person
Registration fee for Programming. NOTE: Meals are not included
- ___ Ala cart Breakfast each meal \$15.00 adult/\$11.00 youth/Free for children ages 8 and younger
- ___ A la cart Lunch each meal \$15.00 adult/\$14.00 youth/Free for children ages 8 and younger
- ___ A la Cart Dinner each meal \$22.00 adult/\$17.00 youth/Free for children ages 8 and younger

Total Payment: \$_____

Please make checks payable to UUCE and include FERRY BEACH RETREAT in the memo line. A \$25.00 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit is due at Registration and will be applied to your balance.

We do not want the cost of the retreat to deter you from joining us. Limited partial scholarships may be available to assist with costs. Please contact Anne Ossanna to request financial assistance prior to registration.

of Vegetarians in Party: _____ # of Vegans in Party: _____ # of Gluten Free in Party: _____

Other dietary restrictions, allergies, food considerations, and or special needs (ie – no stairs, close to bathroom)

Are you willing to lead a workshop? Yes _____ No _____

Topic/Focus of workshop you are willing to lead _____

One of the lessons of good ministry I hoped to learn through my internship is the art of leaving well. It's a fine art, and one that your congregations have less experience doing with interns, as I am the first to come to you "from away," and the first to truly leave your communities at the end of the internship. My leaving has been made extra complicated by the pandemic. Geographically, physically, I am already gone. We don't get to say goodbye in person. There will be no hugs. There will be no cake. And because I'm not in your church every Sunday, you might not even notice that I've left. Until you do.

At some point over the summer, I'll be back, to return books and keys, to pick up some things I've left behind in the churches. But it probably won't be safe or responsible for us to gather. In the fall, you will welcome a new intern, and it will be her turn to shine and to grow and to be actively loved into ministry by you. I'll stay away from your congregations for a year. And then, and who knows what the world will be like then, then we can greet each other, not as intern minister and congregants, but as friends. I very much look forward to that day.

Thank you for your kindness and curiosity; for the plentiful opportunities for learning, for challenging myself and taking chances and setting boundaries; for sharing your time and your hearts and occasionally a cup of tea or a slice of bread with me. I am a more confident, more creative, more formed minister because of you, and for that I am eternally grateful.

Until we meet again,
Your intern,
Ariel Aaronson-Eves



ONLINE [LINK](#) TO MAY
SOUL MATTERS PACKET
[COMPASSION](#)



BLACK LIVES MATTER



I Still CAN'T Breathe

Chester Children's Chorus - I Still Can't Breathe:

The first music video of the Chester Children's Chorus from Chester, PA. **Please use discretion when showing the video to children under age 13.**



WHILE AT HOME - SOME TV SHOWS WORTH WATCHING

THESE SHOWS ARE USEFUL RESOURCES ON RACIAL JUSTICE ISSUES

- 13th (Ava DuVernay) — Netflix
- American Son (Kenny Leon) — Netflix
- Black Power Mixtape: 1967-1975 — Available to rent
- Clemency (Chinonye Chukwu) — Available to rent
- Dear White People (Justin Simien) — Netflix
- Fruitvale Station (Ryan Coogler) — Available to rent
- I Am Not Your Negro (James Baldwin documentary) — Available to rent or on Kanopy
- If Beale Street Could Talk (Barry Jenkins) — Hulu
- Just Mercy (Destin Daniel Cretton) — Available to rent
- King In The Wilderness — HBO
- See You Yesterday (Stefon Bristol) — Netflix
- Selma (Ava DuVernay) — Available to rent
- The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution — Available to rent
- The Hate U Give (George Tillman Jr.) — Hulu with Cinemax
- When They See Us (Ava DuVernay) — Netflix

A VIDEO MESSAGE FROM REV SARA ON TOP OF GREAT POND MOUNTAIN



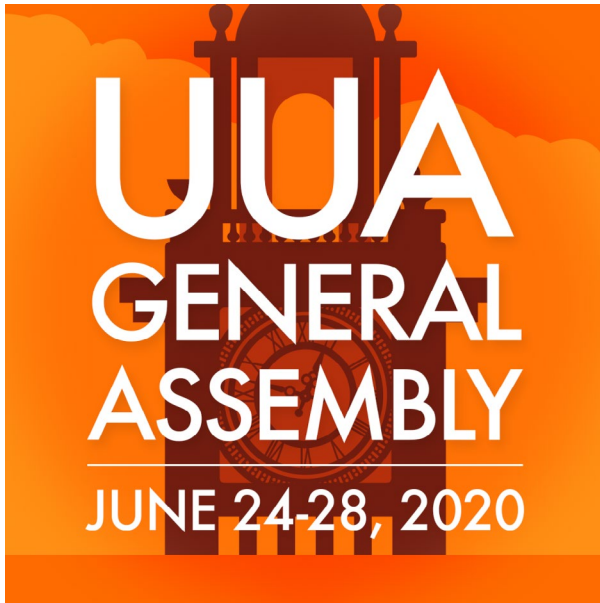
Ten years ago, it was walking up Blue Hill Mountain several days a week that saved me, by which I mean helped me be and feel healthy again. This year, in this time, it's walking each day alongside the Penobscot River and making a point several days each week to climb Great Pond Mountain.

What, I wonder, are you doing to take in—really take in and be nourished by—the beauty blooming all around us? What people, creatures, gardens or walks are saving you?

A week ago, I made this video at the end of a long but still good day. May we help each other discover and remember these places.

Click [HERE](#) or [image above](#) to view Vimeo video of Rev. Sara on Great Pond Mountain.

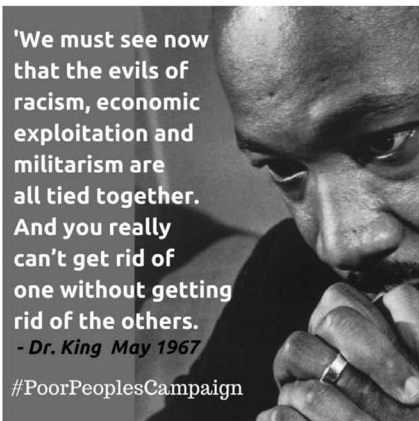




UU ASSOCIATION 2020 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The UUA Board of Trustees has passed a resolution to make the 2020 General Assembly a 100% virtual event. A virtual GA has many benefits, including a significant reduction in their carbon footprint and the possibility of higher attendance, since it is more accessible for delegates and anyone else burdened by travel costs or time. Across the country, UU congregations have embraced virtual meetings and Sunday services. We are excited for what lies ahead!

Save the Date



**Everybody's got a right to live!
We won't be silent anymore!**

THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN: A NATIONAL CALL FOR MORAL REVIVAL

We are a non-violent and grassroots fusion movement of poor and low-wealth people joining with allies to fight the interconnected injustices of systemic poverty; systemic racism; the militarized economy; ecological devastation and the distorted moral narrative of Christian Nationalism that keeps these systems in place. We are building power from the bottom up and across manufactured lines of division to educate ourselves and our communities – and we are mobilizing hundreds of people in Maine to join thousands of poor and impacted people from around the nation on **June 20, 2020** for a Mass People's Assembly and Moral March on Washington. **Will you join us?**

To learn how to become involved:
Visit www.poorpeoplescampaign.org;
email Maine@poorpeoplescampaign.org;
call Adam Thiesen at (708) 903-0651;
and follow Maine PPC on Facebook.

TRANSFORMED TO DIGITAL

THE ASSEMBLY & MORAL MARCH ON JUNE 20, 2020 WILL NOT BE POSTPONED BUT WILL BE TRANSFORMED! WE ARE GOING DIGITAL!

UUCE YARD SALE SATURDAY, TBD

Yard Sale 2020 is postponed
New date: TBD

It's still a great time to sort through that closet or dresser or basement to find those things that no longer fit well in your life - and set them aside to donate to the UUCE yard sale! We've had a number of donations from people moving, so our storage facility is pretty near capacity - if you can hold onto your donations for a little while, that'd be terrific. If you absolutely, positively must get your donations out of your house sooner, contact Pepper at 757-746-7874 or eapepper1@aol.com.




Check Out the
UU MINISTRY FOR EARTH

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

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

GREEN ACTION TEAM

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State of Maine has moved the effective date for the ban of plastic single-use bags to January 15, 2021. Loaves and Fishes can use your clean plastic single-use bags - please drop them off at the church.

If you already shop with reusable bags, remember to clean them to prevent the transmittal of disease. Cloth reusable bags can be cleaned in the washing machine with hot water and detergent. Then, run them through the dryer. Wash bags made from plastic by hand in warm soapy water and then line dry.

If you use the Ellsworth Transfer Station, please note revised hours:
Monday: closed; Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.; Wednesday: closed;
Thursday: closed; Friday: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.; Saturday: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.; and Sunday: closed.



HANNAFORD & SHAWS GIFT CARDS

We are continuing to sell Hannaford cards as well as Shaw's cards. Gift cards make wonderful gifts for friends, neighbors and family! We have many cards available (\$50, \$100, and \$250). Note that our UU congregation receives 5% of every card sale--cool deal and free cash to us.

Pick up your card(s) from Evelyn Foster at 173 Pioneer Farm Way, Ellsworth. Please call first 207-667-5998 or 207-479-8998. You may also email Evelyn at ewfoster@myfairpoint.net

Help us out at no cost to you - except grocery money you would spend anyway! Buy Hannaford gift cards for yourself and others, too. Thank you!!

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM'S 7 PRINCIPLES

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.



CLYNK PRECAUTIONS

CLYNK is a redemption company born out of community. You rely on us to get you back your deposits, and our hardworking employees value your business as it gives them dependable income and basic benefits. Never has this been truer than during the COVID-19 outbreak.

CLYNK is open for business. We are committed to keeping this little corner of your life “easy and convenient” even while the rest is anything but. We are taking extra precautions to keep our employees safe, including increased vigilance on the use of personal protective equipment. If you see a driver decked out in unusual gear – please give them a thumbs up (or virtual elbow bump) from us!

To the same end, we’d like to ask for a voluntary safety pledge from you. After filling your CLYNK bag and tying it tight, please hold on to it for 3 days before you drop it off at any CLYNK drop location. This will help to dramatically reduce the risk of surface-to-human contamination. To signal you have done this please tie a bright piece of ribbon/string/anything to the handle of your bag. We are calling this a “3 Day OK.”



If you need CLYNK bags and stickers please email Anne at aossanna@aol.com. Anne will mail out requests once a week, complete with a ribbon until further notice.

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.

VIDEOS OF RECENT SERVICES

Did you miss any of the recent services on Zoom?

Click [HERE](#) to view one or them all.



UUCE OFFICE

During this time of mandated isolation to curtail the spread of Covid-19, the Church and Office remain closed. Church Administrator Jeff Jeude is working remotely most of the time, but coming into the office on Wednesday, from 11:00 to 3:00.

You can ALWAYS reach him by phone at 573-330-4677 and email either office@uuellsworth.org or emmaus117@gmail.com.

Support to Set-Up ZOOM Meetings for Church Gatherings

Jeff is able to schedule church-related ZOOM meetings. If you need to schedule a ZOOM meeting for your church purposes, please email him at office@uuellsworth.org or call the church at 207-667-4393 on Wednesdays when he's physically in the building, typically 11:00 a.m. to 3p.m. If your need is urgent and Jeff has not gotten back to you, please call, text or email Rev. Sara Hayman at 207-610-2872 or sara@uuellsworth.org. If possible, please give us several days notice to schedule these ZOOM meetings.

Thank you!

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM'S 6 SOURCES

The living tradition which we share draws from many sources:

1. Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
2. Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
3. Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
4. Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
5. Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
6. Spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.



COVID-19 TASK FORCE

Facing our Grief

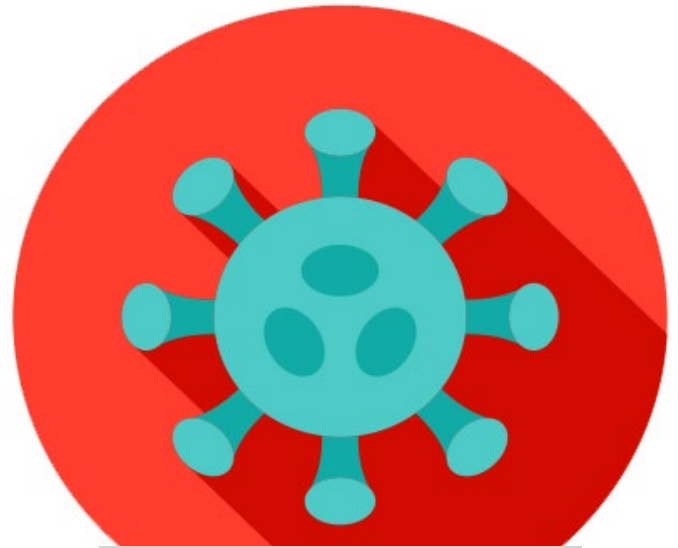
So many of us are putting maximum energy into staying well and keeping others well during this current pandemic. We are exercising, eating better, getting outdoors as much as we can, and following CDC guidelines. What doesn't get managed as well are all the personal losses we are experiencing: cancellation of important events, loss of contact with others, sick friends and family that we can't visit, and the list goes on. I took my many losses and disruptions on the chin, breathed in a deep breath, and went on. And then I read a profound piece on grief by Dr. Nirav Shah, the head of the Maine CDC. For me it touched a very deep well of grief I was holding and I found myself sobbing uncontrollably. Reading this article put me in touch with that grief, and brought me some peace. Here is a link for a video of his April 17 press conference for anyone who is interested. His words on grief start at 18:39 minutes. If you haven't seen it yet, I highly recommend it.

<https://bangordailynews.com/video/maine-cdc-press-conference-april-17/>

Dr. Shaw has become a Maine hero to many of us. He is rational, scientific, calm, informative, and holistic, addressing every aspect of life affected by the virus. He holds a daily press conference around 2 PM Monday through Friday, broadcasted on public radio and televised on public television and Channel 7/Fox TV.

Please know we are here for you.

Your Board-appointed COVID-19 Task Force will continue meeting weekly to help us make prudent and timely decisions. The members of this task force want you to know you are welcome to reach out to them for support or guidance.



TASK FORCE

UUCE COVID-19 TASK FORCE CONTACT INFORMATION

Mary Haynes:

667-7596 (home)

207-266-2207 (cell/text)

Penel Houghton:

207-266-1484 (cell/text)

Anne Ossanna:

565-2057 (home)

374-5612 (work)

207-479-6338 (cell/text)

Marta Rieman:

667-7584 (home)

207-479-7250 (cell/text)

Gary Shellehamer:

667-0034 (home)

202-494-3593 (cell/text)

Karen Volckhausen:

667-9212 (home)

207-266-9212 (cell/text)

SANKOFA CORNER



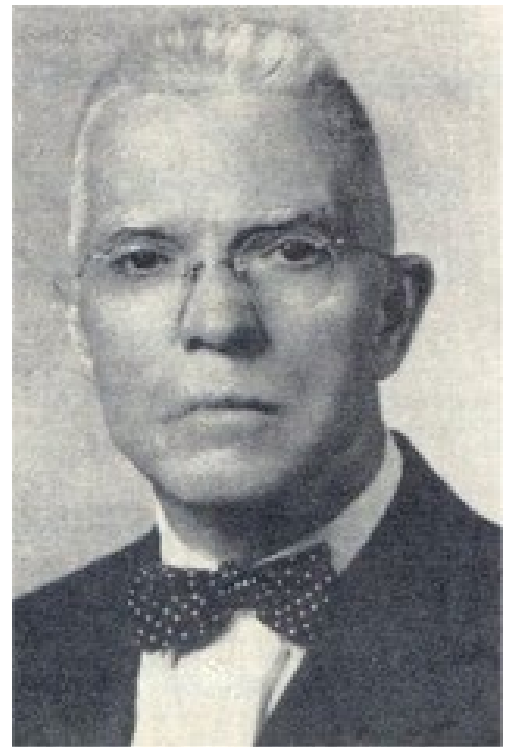
REV. JOHN ERNEST BRYANT (1893-1982)

Wayne H. Smith
UUCE Historian

John Ernest Bryant was born on May 14, 1893 in Royse City, Texas, the sixth of the seven children of John Elisha Bryant and Lydia Anne “Annie” Phillips, both originally from Mississippi, who raised him in a Southern Methodist background. In his youth, he attended Royse City High School where, at the age of 14, he chanced upon a copy of Ralph Waldo Emerson’s essay “Compensation,” which eventually led him towards his future as a Unitarian minister.

After graduation, he went on to Simmons College in Abilene, Texas, Southern Methodist University in Dallas (B.A. 1917), and Meadville Theological School (B.D. 1925) who awarded him a Cruft Fellowship for a year’s study at the University of Marburg, Germany (1925-26). While in Marburg, he met his future wife, Mabel Atherton Craig, the daughter of Charles Murray Craig and Anne Atherton Starrett of Belfast, who was there doing post graduate work in philosophy.

He applied for fellowship in the Unitarian Ministry in 1926, and was ordained by the Second Church in Boston on March 17, 1927. Three months after his ordination, on June 30, 1927, Rev. Bryant married Ms. Craig, who had received an MRE degree (Master in Religious Education) in fine arts, religion, music, and philosophy from Boston University. Although they later separated, the couple would go on to have a total of four children: Priscilla, Ruth, Ernest, and John. Rev. Bryant’s first pastoral position was as an interim in



Newburyport, Mass. for three months in 1927 and as a summer supply preacher in Pembroke, Mass. during the same year. His first full-time position was at the Unitarian Church in Windsor, Vermont from 1928 to 1929. From 1929 to May 1, 1932, he served a Unitarian church in Brewster, Mass.

When he left Brewster, he originally wanted to take up farming and he got as far as doing soil conservation work for the state of Maine. He continued this work even after he accepted a position at the Community

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[Sankofa Corner, continued from previous page]

Church (Universalist) in Swanville where he preached from 1936 to 1944. In July of 1937, responding to an inquiry from the American Unitarian Association asking whether he still wanted to be in fellowship with the AUA, he responded, "I hope that I may have a Unitarian church at some time in the future. For that reason I should like to remain in the fellowship."

Well, that Unitarian church was us! Rev. Bryant arrived in Ellsworth on Oct. 15, 1944 to begin a two-year pastorate that ended on Sept. 1, 1946. In a Nov. 1, 1945 letter to Frederick T. McGill, Jr., he wrote: "When I came here a year ago, I found a Woman's Alliance, satisfied with its membership, and a spirit of defeatism in the minds of many church members." He also found a number of other problems, including an inactive Men's Club, a Sunday School with one teacher and three pupils, an inactive Young People's Group with no youth center, a choir consisting of "two or three unorganized singers," and "a church building badly in need of repair." He goes on:

Some younger men have come into the parish, and decided we must be able to heat the church this winter, or shut up shop. One oil-burning furnace has been shipped, and should be functioning by Dec. 1. We had hoped to have a new roof, and to decorate the interior of the church. But labor shortage makes that impossible before next spring. We have a men's club that is taking hold, and their latest proposal is this: The Woman's Alliance raise \$150 a year in addition to what they are now raising, and the men's club another \$150, making it possible to pay back the \$3,000 in ten years, instead of five. (The five-year limit was proposed by one of our younger men in the first place.) I am confident that they can, and will do these things.

US involvement with World War II ended in August 1945 and on the occasion of V-J Day, Bryant composed new lyrics to the old hymn tune Federal Street entitled "God's Faith in Man," part of which says: "Lead us from hatred and from strife to universal brotherhood." He sent a copy of the new hymn to Dan Fenn of the AUA who replied, "I started the process of having it mimeographed and circulated to our entire ministry."

In the meantime, Rev. Bryant began working on some of the problems he had found at the church. A Sept. 19, 1945 newspaper clipping (probably from the Bangor Daily) notes: "A junior church will be started at the First Unitarian church next Sunday at 10 a.m. In it the children will learn by doing. They will be trained to do in their own way the things which adults in a regular church service. There will also be a primary class for the younger ones." In addition, the young people's group, dubbed the "American Unitarian Youth," were to meet at 7:30 in the church vestry. And the concept of a Youth Center was started up beginning on Oct. 1, 1945 under the leadership of Robert and Thurley Royal and a committee to be chosen by the youth themselves.

At the beginning of 1946, Rev. Bryant made an appeal for pledges from the members of the congregation. He noted that as of Jan. 1, 1946, the Alliance had been "enlarged with younger members, achievement second to no women's group in city," that the Men's Club was now a "live group, under Dick Collar, sharing church burden," that the Sunday School now had "one director, two teachers, one substitute, 21 pupils," that the Young People's Group now had "ten members, who can take over morning service if necessary," that

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[Sankofa Corner, continued from previous page]

the choir now had an “organist, leader, and seven others,” and that the church now had a Youth Center, “providing as high as 60 youngsters with wholesome recreation and making friends of them.” He wrote that a good lay preacher had been discovered, that there were fourteen new members, and that physical building was being reconstructed.

Although he was largely able to conceal this from the Ellsworth congregation, Rev. Bryant would on occasion suffer from fainting spells. His personal physician, Dr. Arthur P. Stebbins, wrote a TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN letter on May 31, 1946 refuting a previous physician’s diagnosis of his condition as epilepsy, saying rather that it was due to low blood pressure and periods of low blood sugar. Bryant himself stated that he had for years followed a diet of scarcely any meat and sweets and no coffee. He wrote: “A reversal of this diet has changed the picture as stated above.” He said he would also take a dose of desoxyyn which “will inure me against such faintness for a matter of three or four hours.” His physician summed up his health saying: “In my opinion, the man is in excellent health and is physically and mentally capable of performing his ministerial duties.”

By the spring of 1946, however, a “sudden break” occurred between Rev. Bryant and the Ellsworth church. In a letter to church secretary Eva Osgood, who had written to Bryant requesting that he tender his resignation as minister of the parish, Rev. Bryant first called attention to a “foul blow” struck by the former chairman of the Trustees “without warning, at a minister who had not fully recovered from a major operation.” He accused the Trustee of calling a “phony parish meeting” at which he read a confidential letter written to him by the minister seven months previously

revealing a life-long illness improperly diagnosed and treated as epilepsy.

The details are many and tedious, but it was growing more and more obvious that the church was no longer interested in continuing with this particular pastor. Bryant signed off his letter to Eva Osgood saying: “[T]ry first the perpetrator of this unholy mess, and consider whether you think him to be worthy of holding office in your organization. I have no desire to remain in any parish where I cannot do a worthwhile work...I should hate to think, as I leave you, that the group would condone such methods.” Following the church’s two-month summer recess, Bryant’s pastorate ended on Sept. 1.

From 1947 to 1949, Bryant served a federated church in Brooksville, made up of one Congregational and two Methodist churches. He also became involved in editing a number of religious publications including *The Maine Christian Liberal*, and *The Swan Lake Swivel* (published from his home in Swanville). He did a lot of writing, including a book of sermons entitled *Freedom’s Holy Light and Genius and Epilepsy*. His hobbies included beekeeping, painting, and letter writing. His obituary notes that “[h]e engaged in long and intensive correspondence with a wide number of politicians and life-long acquaintances,” including epistles to leaders in the AUA, letters to the editor, and long diatribes to such government officials in the early 1960s as Senator Leverett Saltonstall, Senator Thomas Dodd, President John F. Kennedy, and the Greater Boston Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy.

He was a complicated man, and as later letters showed, he did indeed have epilepsy. He died on Feb. 5, 1982 at a nursing home in Gardiner, ME.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: Gary Shellehamer to 2021 (667-0034)	Vice President: Beth Pepper to 2021
Treasurer: Sarah Curts to 2021	Secretary: Susan Opdycke to 2022
Trustee: Robert Breeden to 2022	Trustee: Christine Bowman to 2021
Trustee: Sally Gervais to 2022	Moderator: John Fink

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE CHAIRS

Adult Religious Education: Mary Haynes	Kitchen: Evelyn Foster
Aesthetics: Linda Laing	Landscaping: vacant
Auction: Margaret Thurston	Loaves & Fishes: Beth Pepper, Nina Turner
Building & Maintenance: Mary Haynes	Membership: Nancy Avila
Caring Committee: Sally Francis	Pastoral Visitors Team: Nancy Guy
Charitable Giving: Rev. Sara Hayman, Nancy Guy	Peace and Social Action Ministry: Doug Bird
Choir: Haydée Foreman	Publicity: Susan Opdycke
Collaborative Ministry: Mack MacDonald, Gary Shellehamer	Religious Education: Linda Uberseder, Tobias Betancourt
Committee on Ministry: Karen Volckhausen	Safety: vacant
Cookie Walk: Rev. Sara Hayman	Small Group Ministry: Christine Bowman
Eggroll Project: Susan Opdycke	Stewardship: Bob Francis
Parking Lot Task Force: Mary Haynes	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	Worship Arts: Lori Johnson
History/Archives/Library: Wayne Smith	Yard Sale: Beth Pepper, Bill Fogle
Hospitality Ministry Coordinator: Jeff Jeude	Youth Advisor: Bob Dickens

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



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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.