



The NUUS

FEBRUARY 2023 VOLUME 55, NO. 2

IN THIS ISSUE

- Stories from the Heart
- Jude Lamb interviewed
- UUCE Pajama Party Auction
Feb. 25, 2023
- Atlantic Black Box Walking
Tour in Portland
- Seeking Yard Sale Chairman
for 2024



NEW: UUCE Bulletin Board

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



The
Path
of
Love



MINISTRY MATTERS

BY SARA HAYMAN



Dear Ones,

Welcome to our February NUUS!

Welcome to mid-winter, almost Imbolc,
to these days when real snow is finally on the ground.
Welcome to the trustworthy promise of seeds
buried deep in darkness that are slowly beginning to stir.
Welcome to the many life-giving invitations of this season:
to the power of rest and slowing down,
to the joy of making big pots of soup you know to share with friends.
Welcome to the sensation of biting cold on your cheeks
and the eerie sounds of ice moaning on lakes.

Welcome to you, Beloveds—yes, you—who’s arrived in this circle.
Welcome in to community and the myriad possibilities
for healing, growth, love and becoming
that are made real
whenever and wherever
we show up to serve Love.
We’re so glad you’re here.

Rev. Sara

View a short video where Rev. Sara discusses upcoming events and important work happening at UUCE!



FEBRUARY WORSHIP SERVICES

10:30 A.M.

Multi-Platform, 3-Church Collaborative Worship Service at 10:30am
(In-person at the UU church of Ellsworth & accessible on Zoom)

Sunday, February 5 **LOVE: It's About so Much More than Affection!**
Revs. Margaret Beckman, Amy Fiorili & Sara Hayman, Worship Leaders

Special Singing
RE Classes today
Plate Split to benefit Beth Wright Cancer Resource Center

2/5 Worship Service Zoom Meeting:
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/95798163799>
Meeting ID: 957 9816 3799
Phone: 646-558-8656

This Sunday, UUCE hosts the second of three Multi-platform Collaborative Worship Services of the year with our sibling congregations of Belfast and Castine. All are welcome to come to church in person in Ellsworth or to join in the worship circle on ZOOM. Drawing from the work and wisdom of bell hooks, we'll reflect on what being "truly loving" entail. How are we choosing to embody love and be loving in our lives and as members and friends of our UU congregations?

* PLEASE BE AWARE this Sunday (2/5), the Sanctuary will be a "Masks Optional" space and the Community Room will be "Masks Required" for worship.

Multi-Platform Worship at 10:30am

*** Sunday, February 12** **The Heart of Our Faith**
Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader

Stories from the Heart at 9am with Jude Lamb sharing
Special Music
R.E. Classes today
Congregational Conversation after Worship

2/12 Worship Service Zoom Meeting: [https://uuma.zoom.us/j/92824958094?](https://uuma.zoom.us/j/92824958094?pwd=R2NBajlXNIE0NWxNKzh2bUVwYkhlUT09)
[pwd=R2NBajlXNIE0NWxNKzh2bUVwYkhlUT09](https://uuma.zoom.us/j/92824958094?pwd=R2NBajlXNIE0NWxNKzh2bUVwYkhlUT09)
Meeting ID: 928 2495 8094
Password: 167008
Phone: 646-558-8656

It's an exciting time to be Unitarian Universalist! Over the last several years, a Commission has been actively engaged in reviewing "Article II" of our UUA By-laws which includes the Principles and Purposes of our faith. In January, this Commission made a report to the UUA Board re: their findings and recommendations, and over the next two years at our annual General Assembly gatherings, we'll be asked to vote on these proposed changes. In this worship service, and in the Congregational Conversation following worship, we'll explore these proposed changes together, changes that call us to more live more fully into our shared values as UU congregations bound together in covenant. Come and be part of reflecting on this transformative time in our faith tradition.

* PLEASE BE AWARE this Sunday (2/12), the Sanctuary will be a "Masks Optional" space (with a section designated Mask Required seating in the sanctuary), and the Community Room will be "Masks Required" for the worship service.

Multi-Platform, Multi-generational Worship at 10:30am

*** Sunday, February 19 Amaryllis means “to sparkle”**
Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader

Truth be told, it’s scary stuff most days to love other people who are suffering or struggling. It’s hard to show up and to keep showing up and to be present and stay present when there are no easy answers, when illness or heartbreak or anxiety or depression are wreaking havoc. In this worship service we acknowledge it’s hard, AND, it’s worth it! What vulnerable steps will you take with me and each other in our spiritual home to show up for love and healing and meaning-making?

* PLEASE BE AWARE this Sunday (2/19), the Sanctuary will be a “Masks Optional” space (with a section designated Mask Required seating in the sanctuary), and the Community Room will be “Masks Required” for the worship service.

ZOOM-Only Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30am

*** Sunday, February 26 God Gave Me a Word**
Rev Sara Hayman, Worship Leader

In a poem she wrote , UU minister Amy Petrie Shaw suggests that, “God Gave Me a Word...and that word is love.” Drawing insight and inspiration from our Universalist heritage, we’ll make space in this service to consider what it means to hold fast to the belief that, “there is a love holding us.”

2/19 Worship Service Zoom Meeting: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/91631796361?pwd=bHVNcmx4TW9PZ24wRFgrckc0dDM5UT09>
Meeting ID: 916 3179 6361
Password: 301674
Phone: 646-558-8656

2/26 Worship Service Zoom Meeting: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/92801173935?pwd=L29OTWk3WUFsMVYyeTdEQWh3NWs3Zz09>
Meeting ID: 928 0117 3935
Password: 686341
Phone: 646-558-8656



Stories FROM THE Heart



Evelyn Foster
interviews Jude Lamb,
February 12th, 2023
at 9:00 am on ZOOM

ZOOM for Stories from the Heart:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85142950735>
ID: 851 4295 0735
Phone: 646-558-8656





Multiplatform Memorial Service to

Celebrate the Life of Jane Thomas

Saturday, February 18th, 2023
at 2 p.m.

at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth
Reception to follow in the Community Room

ZOOM Invite for Memorial Service:

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/99868317184>

MEETING ID: 998 6831 7184

PHONE: 646-876 9923

Jane Thomas was a beloved member of our congregation for many, many years. She died at the age of 91 after a brief illness on January 17th with her beloved husband, Jon, by her side. It will be an honor to host Jane's Memorial Service on Saturday, February 18th at 2pm. This is a Multi-platform Memorial Service, allowing for your participation both on-line and in-person. Many thanks to both the folks in our Pastoral Care Ministry for who are organize and hosting the reception, and to all those who've signed up to make savory or sweet goodies or help in other ways.

If you wish to send your love and sympathy to Jon Thomas, Jane's beloved husband, or her children Frank and Carol, you can do that by mail, email or text: 19 Newbury Neck Rod, Surry, ME 04685; jthomas@panax.com; and Jon's cell/text: 207-460-8454. Here is a link to Jane's obituary published in late January in the Bangor Daily News: <https://obituaries.bangordailynews.com/obituary/jane-thomas-1087050229>



UUCE PAJAMA PARTY AUCTION 2023!!

SATURDAY EVENING,
FEBRUARY 25, 2023

To preview the catalog
or place bids visit
[onlinefundraiser.events/
UUCE2023](https://onlinefundraiser.events/UUCE2023)



Baby Dorothy
is very excited
to show off her
newest pjs!

Our third annual on-line Goods & Services Auction is scheduled for **SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 25, 2023!** Get dressed up in your comfiest pajamas and join us for an evening of fun while supporting UUCE.

Get dressed up in your comfiest pajamas and join us for an evening of fun while supporting UUCE.

Zoom will allow us to avoid worries about winter weather by using the same platform for the live portion of the auction. And our Auctria website will host the catalog of silent and live items up for bid.

Silent Auction bidding is scheduled to begin February 15th through February 25th at 6pm.

Our world-renowned auctioneer team of CJ Lammers and Beth Pepper are lined up to emcee the live bidding, with tech wizard Suzanne Aubrey at work behind the scenes to make sure the event goes smoothly.

We are looking for a few more helpers to make this fun event happen. Please contact Jeff Juede (uucellsworth@gmail.com) if you're interested in helping plan and manage auction preparations, or if you'd be available the night before and night of the event to spot bidders, record the bids, and assist with odd jobs. Get in touch, too, if you have questions or ideas for bringing more fun and funds to this big fundraiser!

Plan to tune in to be part of the festivities on February 25, and support UUCE from the comfort of your couch. See you there!



Religious Education at UUCE

**We are watering seeds of love, compassion and awareness;
growing children with Unitarian Universalist values.**



It's February, and we are entering into our last month of the first term. There will be two more classes on the 5th & the 15th. All are welcome to join in whether you have been attending or not.

The first term offers 3 age-based classrooms.

Spirit Play: age 5 through grade 2

Moral Tales (Tapestry of Faith): grades 3-5

Amazing Grace (Tapestry of Faith): grades 6-8

Unfortunately, due to very low attendance, we cannot continue these UU grounded, rich & meaningful programs. A shift in our thinking has been necessary. Although we are hopeful that parents and families will attend church, until we have more participation, we will be offering an all-ages class (starting in March). Spirit play stories about world religions & famous UU's, Soul Matters activities, games, crafts and song are just some of the possibilities.

*And let's not forget **OWL** (Our Whole Lives) for our youth in grades 6-8. Plans are underway! Pending commitment from enough parents, OWL will begin in April. Please watch your email. We will be contacting parents soon.*



Immense gratitude for all our current and future volunteers, and, for Linda Überseder who chaired the committee for several years!!

We ARE better together!

Love, Christine Bowman (Interim RE Committee Chairperson)

BECOME A COOKIE MINISTER!

Each week, UUCE's Cookie Ministry delivers snacks to the Ellsworth High School Gay/Straight/ Diversity Alliance. We are currently seeking one more cookie minister to help bake cookies and deliver snacks. Contact Kay Wilkins kaywilkins39@gmail.com if you can help.

TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY UPDATE

During the 131st legislature, over 20 bills have been introduced in relation to the Wabanaki. The most important two appear to be a new omnibus Sovereignty bill and a bill regarding implementation of the Wabanaki Studies Law from 2001. These two are likely to become priority bills for UU allies throughout the state of Maine.

[MUUSAN's Tips and Tools for Legislative Advocacy.](#) To help those of us who would like to engage in state-level advocacy, Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN) now has an incredibly useful set of tools posted on its website. Be sure to bookmark it as you'll want to return to it again and again!

Harvard Report: [Economic and Social Impacts of Restrictions on the Applicability of Federal Indian Policies to the Wabanaki Nations in Maine](#)

December 5, 2022, Cambridge, MA – A team of researchers from the Harvard Kennedy School has released a research report documenting the costs to the Wabanaki Nations in Maine—Maliseet, Mi'kmaq, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot—and to Maine's non-tribal citizens of the state's being screened off from federal policies of Indian self-determination and self-governance. Read the press release...

Podcast: [Mapping the Doctrine of Discovery](#)

The "Doctrine of Discovery," better described as the "Doctrine of Christian Discovery and World Domination," established the worldview that not only brought devastation to the natural world, but also impaired the ability for human beings to live in proper relationship with the Earth. Listening to this podcast will open listeners' eyes to things we never learned in school.

Visit [PASA's web page](#) to find resources and to learn more about ongoing peace and social action efforts.





8TH PRINCIPLE NEWS



BOOK DISCUSSION

Join us for the UUA common read- Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism, which begins Feb. 2 and meets for four sessions every two weeks from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Barb Acosta and Cecily Judd will facilitate the session to learn about the often rocky – and frequently joyful – journeys other congregations have taken on the road to becoming diverse and multicultural beloved communities.

If you are interested please reach out to Barbara Acosta drabarb@gmail.com or Jana Robinson, janasmith.robinson@outlook.com. Books are \$20 or whatever you can afford. Please check out our library for other books.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Watch for Black History Month information in the February weekly e-news: new books in the library, resources and community events, posters and quotations on the church bulletin boards. The theme for the month is Black Resistance. To learn more, check out the History Channel, or the Black History Month resources and a great list of books from the University of Maine. We have also posted a Black History in Maine page on our UUCE website.

We'd love to hear stories about your own experiences with racism, your first exposures to and understanding of racism and oppression here in the United States or when you first realized your own white privilege. For anyone who is not already familiar with Peggy McIntosh's essay, please check out this link: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack. If you'd like to share a story, please reach out to Barbara Acosta drabarb@gmail.com or Jana Robinson, janasmith.robinson@outlook.com

ARTICLE II STUDY COMMISSION AND BYLAWS RECOMMENDATION

The Article II Study Commission submitted its proposed changes to the Article II section of the bylaws of the UUA to the UUA board for discussion in January. Article II of the UU bylaws addresses our covenant, our values, sources, and principles. See image that represents the values of our faith. FMI see the Article

II draft feedback website and the post of the language on the church bulletin board.

The board will review the recommendation and include the issue the June 2023 General Assembly agenda.

The 8th Principle Journey Task Force will hold a church conversation about the proposed changes to Article II of the bylaws following church service on Sunday, February 12. Please join us. The changes to the bylaws include the following draft image that represents the values of our faith.

A few of us are asking to represent the congregation at the General Assembly in June so that we can vote on these proposed changes to the bylaws. We would encourage other members to attend this year's General Assembly, which will be held in Pittsburgh in June, either in person or virtually.

ATLANTIC BLACK BOX PORTLAND TOUR FIELD TRIP

Our first field trip to learn more about Black history and racial injustice in Maine is to Portland on Saturday, March 18 for the Atlantic Black Box Project. On Tuesday, March 14, Seth Goldstein, field trip host, will participate in a UUCE open conversation to talk about the Atlantic Black Box project. Stay tuned to weekly e-news for more information.

We continue to explore educational training opportunities on racism and white privilege and the tools other congregations are using to assess their own journeys to learn more about combatting racism and other oppressions. We'd welcome your participation and questions. (more details on next page)



**Mark Your Calendar now for a
UUCE 8th Principle Journey
Task Force Sponsored
Multigenerational Offerings in
March, 2023!**

**MARCH COLLABORATIVE
ANTIRACISM CONVERSATION**

**GUEST SPEAKER: SETH GOLDSTIEN
FROM THE ATLANTIC BLACK BOX PROJECT**

Tuesday, March 14th from 4-5:30pm
on ZOOM
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4695376814>
Meeting ID: 469 537 6814
Phone: 646-558-8656

Cushing's Point Museum Director Seth Goldstein has been researching the economic ties between Maine and the luxury producing plantations of the West Indies. Goldstein discusses the various commodities, such as lumber, draft animals and salt cod, that Maine supplied to West Indian plantations. Concurrently enslaved Africans labored to produce molasses, rum, and other luxury goods that were consumed here in Maine. Come be a part of this learning community. Your engagement and questions are wanted and welcomed!

90-MINUTE ATLANTIC BLACK BOX WALKING TOUR

Saturday, March 18th at 1pm; Old Port in Portland

(Meet at corner of Commercial Street and India Street)

Registration required; email uucellsworth@gmail.com to register.

\$25 suggested donation to register – Checks made out to UUCE w/ "walking tour" in memo

Contact UUCE's 8th Principle Journey Task Force Chair, Jana Robinson,
for more information: janasmith.robinson@outlook.com or text: 207-347-9008

WALKING TOUR DESCRIPTION

Historian Seth Goldstein will take us on a stroll through Portland's Old Port to learn about the Wabanaki Indigenous First People who were the region's original inhabitants. Find out why Casco Bay was such an important center of trade for the Wabanaki. You'll learn about the European diseases that led to the deaths of many Indigenous Americans as well as the French and Indian Wars in Maine. Next you'll learn about African enslavement in Southern Maine. Seth will also discuss Portland's community of free individuals from the African Diaspora who were active in the cities' Underground Railroad and abolition movements. Seth will discuss his research on Maine's economic ties to the plantations of the Caribbean where enslaved Africans grew luxury products that were consumed here in Maine. The tour includes a stop at the Abyssinian Meeting House, the U.S.' third oldest remains African Meeting House.

BIO OF LECTURER & TOUR GUIDE

Seth Goldstein grew up on Cape Cod where he developed his passion for maritime history. He received his bachelor's degree in European History from the University of California at Santa Cruz and his master's degree in World History from Northeastern University. His research interests include the historic North Atlantic fishery, global piracy, New England shipwrecks and lighthouses, the trans-Atlantic slave trade and the Vietnam War era counter culture. He has worked for Greater Portland Landmarks and The Portland Harbor Museum. Seth has taught at the University of New England and Southern Maine Community College and currently teaches at The Maine College of Art and Design. He is the Educational Coordinator for the Atlantic Black Project; a grass roots non-profit that examines Maine and New England's marginalized history and the regions complicity with the economics of enslavement. He is the Director of the Cushing's Point Museum at Bug Light Park and is the Director of Development for the South Portland Historical Society. Seth lives in South Portland with his wife and two children.

YARD SALE 2023 (YS23)

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

8am-2pm!

HAVE STUFF TO DONATE?

With the cold temps and snow outside, now's the perfect time to start sorting through your closets and drawers and kitchen cabinets and basement and attic and garage and find all those things that make you say, "What was I thinking when I got this??" If it doesn't spark joy or it shrank while hanging in your closet or you've decided you're just not going to learn to play the tuba anytime soon, we want it for this year's yard sale! As long as it's **CLEAN and IN GOOD WORKING ORDER (and not big exercise equipment or a tube TV)**, we'll take it!

This year, we're storing YS donations in the old Loaves & Fishes building, so if you have stuff you want to donate and you don't want to wait until June to get rid of it, contact me and we'll set up a time to meet.

YS23 BACK ON OUR CHURCH CAMPUS!

And it will be some combination of indoors and out - I'm still working out the details, so if you have any

thoughts or ideas, I'm all ears! (call or text: 757-746-7874 or email eapepper2@gmail.com). We'll be picking up donations on Wednesday, June 14 (3-7pm), setting up at UUCE on Thursday & Friday, June 15 & 16, 8am-6pm and we'll work the yard sale on Saturday, June 17, 7:15am-4pm. Come join the fun for a few hours or a few days or anything in between!

IF ANYONE HAS ANY INTEREST IN CHAIRING THE YARD SALE NEXT YEAR

(YS24), I'm more than happy to show you the ropes. You couldn't ask for a better team than UUCE yard sale teammates!

This year marks my 10th year running UUCE's yard sale and I'll be stepping down afterwards. It's been SO. MUCH. FUN! I'll be forever grateful to all the folks who have donated and worked the yard sales over the years. I've loved working with you - you're all great teammates! Together, we've exceeded our budgeted goal every single year!

~ Pepper

SUDDENLY...

FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT GARY SHELLEHAMER

Suddenly, after January seemed to go on forever, it is almost February. And with February (well, actually with any month) comes the NUUS content notice from Lisa. As usual, I look at the monthly email as if it is a totally new deadline I had no idea was coming.

I want to thank all of you who attended the recent Congregational Meeting. I echo Rev. Sara's recognition of those who volunteer to give back to UUCE through service on our many committees, task forces, groups, and board. I want to thank the volunteers (Kay Wilkins, Candace Hubbard, and Helen Kazura) who agreed to stand for election to serve on the Elections Committee for 2023-2024. Thanks too all of you for the congregational vote of support of the MUUSAN Resolution on Wabanaki sovereignty.

I especially want to recognize the reports of our many committees and groups, with their brief reports, they showed that even a pandemic has not had a major impact on our work for UUCE and our community's mission. I am grateful to Suzanne Aubrey, Haydee Foreman, John Fink, our Treasurer Alison Stephens, and of course Rev. Sara for their parts in the meeting.

Your UUCE Board continues to review existing policy and is currently working on updating the Disruptive Behavior Policy, including content addressing online behavior, as we have transitioned there for through Zoom for worship services, special events, and

group meetings and conversations.

We will also be addressing the recommendation of the Covid Task Force on optional masking provided data on the pandemic maintains a green rating, indicating a low number of reported cases and hospitalizations.

And we are working with Rev. Sara and our Peace and Social Action Ministry on Plate Split and other giving to serve others.

In our culture, you always have to deal with ads, so here are two:

Don't forget you can purchase cards for Hannafords and Shaw's and a portion of your bill will be given to UUCE. Sally Gervais is selling the cards on Sundays in the Community Room after our in-person worship services.

And finally, don't miss UUCE'S auction, you can bid on goods or services from your favorite seat at home and give back to UUCE. Check the weekly for updates and find a new (or new to you) treasure or an opportunity to get together with fellow UUCE members and friends for a meal, a gathering, or a special event.

~ Gary





Wednesday Morning Matins
Zoom Invite:
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/96669607701>
Meeting ID: 966 6960 7701
Phone: 646-876-9923

WEDNESDAY MORNING MATINS at 8 am

An Intimate Worship Gathering with Rev. Sara & Others

Are you longing for more intimate space to connect with others in our UUCE community? Do you enjoy poetry, music of all kinds, reading, silence and time for sharing in community? If so, please come! All are welcome to be a part of this ½ hour weekly, contemplative gathering on ZOOM where we companion each other with love and gratitude into the day.

I look forward to being in this circle with you!

Rev. Sara

Tuesday Evening Vespers
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4695376814>
Meeting ID: 469 537 6814
Phone: 646-558-8656



UUCB ONLINE EVENING VESPERS at 6pm

Back to TUESDAY Evenings (not Thursday)

Our weekly time of rest, renewal, and reflection Tuesdays at 6pm. Join UUCB Rev. Amy each week for a 30-minute online service to help settle our minds and hearts, provide nourishment and comfort through music, word and ritual. Everyone is welcome. ~ Rev. Amy

JUICE BULLETIN BOARD

Honest, hard working young
man looking for odd jobs
until fishing season begins.
He is my neighbor's son and
he knows various handy man
skills. He can be called or
texted at 207-479-0592. His
name is Bryce Coombs.

- Cecily Judd





Wayne H. Smith
UUCE Historian

REV. WALTER FRANCIS SMITH (B. 1934)

Walter Francis Smith was born on July 12, 1934 in Ware, Massachusetts, located between Worcester and Springfield. He was the third of the five sons of Albert Edward Smith of Portland, Maine and Isabel Anita Garrigus of Wolcott, Connecticut. He grew up in Ware and attended high school in nearby Warren, MA, graduating in 1952. After graduation, he worked for two years in the shipping department of a factory making plastic products in Warren. Throughout this time, he was very active in the Congregational church in nearby North Brookfield. His pastor told him, "You have the gifts to be a great minister." Said Walter much later: "He certainly saw something in me that I didn't see in myself."

In 1954, Walter entered the Bangor Theological Seminary through what was called the "Bangor Plan," in which students first took two years of college courses taught by faculty members of the University of Maine on the BTS campus. Upon completion of these two years, they were enrolled into the seminary division. It was normally a five-year course of study although Walter required six years as he was involved in church work on the side. After his first part-time position at a Universalist church in Machias, Walter was looking for another church and his classmate, Ken LaFleur, who was in the know on local church affairs, told him, "The Ellsworth church is going to need someone. Why don't you inquire there?" Walter met with a committee from FUSE (the First Unitarian Church of Ellsworth) and they decided to call him.

The records of the Women's Alliance record that "Mr. Walter Smith of West Brookfield, Mass., our new minister, preached his first sermon on the first Sunday in September" [1958]. Referring to that first sermon, Walter said, "I am sure it was too long, too verbose, and too full of myself." When he began preaching at FUSE, he noted that the church served some 50 families, the average size of the congregation was 55, and there were another 24 children in the Sunday School. A reception for Mr.



Walter in Machias 1957

Smith was held at the home of Gordon Ramsdell on Oct. 8, 1958. On November 5, he was guest speaker at another Women's Alliance meeting. The minutes state, "He spoke about using religion in our daily life. He advised us to use each day to the utmost trying to abandon worry as far as possible. A very wonderful talk and one we would do well to try to live up to." Mr. Smith remained at Ellsworth for about eighteen months. The Alliance minutes for March 13, 1960 record: "A farewell party for the minister Walter Smith was held in the dining room after church. Marion Richmond was chairman, assisted by Louise

Ramsdell, Shirley Beal, and Mrs. Dick Carlisle. The minister was presented with a twenty dollar bill." Thinking back on his experience in Ellsworth, Walter recently commented: "I was really too young and too immature to be there. It must have been very hard on the people."

Walter met his future wife, Mrs. Betty Laverne (Collar) Brown, during a Bible study on Jan. 7, 1959. Betty had been invited there by her sister, Ruth Louise (Collar) Small, who was already a member of FUSE. Walter and Betty dated for more than two years, and got married on Aug. 20, 1961 in Orono where Walter was finishing up his Bachelor's degree in education at UMO. Soon after graduation, the family, consisting of Walter and Betty and the two children from her first marriage, moved to Calais where he took on a job teaching at a local school and where their first child, Adrienne, was born on Aug. 10, 1962. They remained there for only one year.

By this time, Walter wanted to be back in ministry and he found a position at a Congregational/UCC church in Haverhill, New Hampshire in the fall of 1963 where he was ordained into the UCC ministry on Oct. 6, 1963. He remained in Haverhill for over two years, during which time he confesses, "I was still struggling trying to find myself. I didn't really know what I wanted to do." From Haverhill, he went to Hillsborough, NH where he served a "double charge" at Methodist churches in both Hillsborough and Henniker from 1965 to 1967. He relates, "I was teaching, but I also began to fill in at Acworth, NH and ended up going to that church and staying for seven years," from 1967-74. He summed it up: "Acworth clicked." That church was the United Church of Acworth, a mix of Congregational and Baptist. It was an amazingly beautiful church in a town that only had 300 people. The town had been bigger before the Civil War, when the church was built.

Soon after starting at Acworth, he got around to finishing up his thesis for his Master of

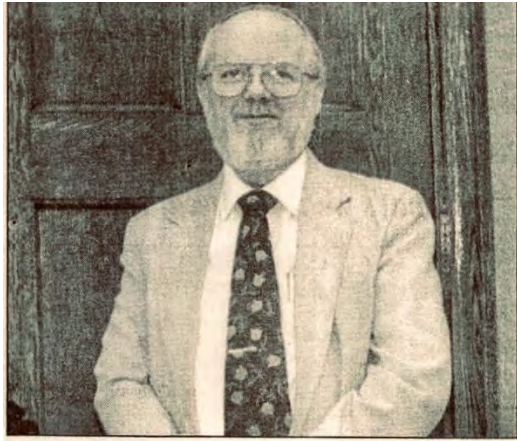
Divinity degree which he obtained from Bangor Theological Seminary. His topic was "Religion in the Writings of Sinclair Lewis." Throughout all of this, he was also teaching literature in the junior high school at Charlestown, NH and the combination of teaching and preaching began to get heavy. "I was working all the time." He felt he had to make a decision, and to him it was obvious. "I wanted to stay in the ministry."

"So we went then to Lisbon, New York, to the Congregational/UCC church there" in 1974 at the end of the year. "We were there through 1980. I think we probably would have stayed there for good, except that my daughter went to college, and I couldn't afford to keep her in college and serve that church because they didn't pay enough, and on top of that my parents were getting very old and there was 'the crisis of the week,' and we decided that we had to relocate to Massachusetts" (where his parents were living). "Within three months, I was called to the Congregational Church in Cliftondale" (part of Saugus). "We were there 15 years."

By 1996, the family was all grown and gone. Daughter Adrienne was married with two kids and was living in Potsdam, NY, not far from Lisbon where Walter and Betty still owned their former home, which they were using as a summer camp while living in Massachusetts. They wanted to be near the grandchildren to watch them grow up. So at the end of 1996, soon after being selected as "Man of the Year" in Saugus, Walter retired for the first time and went back to Lisbon. Then he was called to the First Congregational Church/UCC in Ogdensburg, NY where he served for 11 years. By 2008, Betty's health began to decline steeply, and



Betty & Walter in Saugus 1980



MAN OF THE YEAR — The Rev. Walter F. Smith was PHOTO BY JIM GRIFFIN



Walter visiting Wayne and CJ
in Surry in August of 2017

Walter retired for a second time, but they named him pastor emeritus. (He was also pastor emeritus at the church in Cliftondale.)

The winter of 2008-2009, Walter and Betty went on a cruise with about 30 people from her family. They had a wonderful time. In the spring of 2009, he offered to do some supply preaching, and the next thing he knew he was at the Norwood (NY) UCC church and they wanted to call him as their regular minister, which he accepted. Two years later, the Methodists began meeting with them. It became the Norwood United Ministry/ UCC-Methodist. He served there for seven years, until 2016. By then, Betty was a total invalid, and

Walter couldn't serve the church any more. His strength was diminishing, and so he once again retired. He jokes, "I'm very bad at retiring...I still continue to do funerals or weddings or whatever, and fill in at places...Since then, I've been doing supply preaching...I continue to love the ministry...I continue to have a growing appreciation of people of all kinds...I just feel as though I'm having a wonderful time right now."

Betty died in March of 2017. Since her passing, Walter continues, "I've had enormous support of friends and family, and my cup runneth over."

Additional Notes on Walter from his mother Isabel G. Smith's family history:

"Walter grew up loving sports and music. He played baseball and basketball in high school, and even organized and managed his own baseball team that played games in West Brookfield and Warren. He graduated from Warren High School in 1952. He seemed headed for a career in music with two bands in operation, and enjoying considerable popularity as a singer and square dance caller. However, he felt a calling to the ministry and went to the Bangor Theological Seminary from which he graduated in 1960. He graduated from the University of Maine in 1962 and received Master of Divinity Degree from Bangor Theological Seminary in 1976. He was ordained in 1963.

He was named "Man of the Year" in Saugus in 1996. In 2008, he was given the Distinguished Service Award by the Lisbon Lions Club for service to the community including being one of the founding members of the Lisbon Medical Group Clinic, and founding chairman of the of the Lisbon Depot Museum.

No discussion of Walter would be complete without mentioning his interest in railroads. In his early youth, he was fascinated by both trains and busses, and he has always been willing to drive many miles to watch trains roll by. He is the proud owner of an extensive model railroad collection and is a regular contributor to railroad publications."

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.



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.



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.

UUCE OFFICE

During this time of mandated isolation to curtail the spread of Covid-19, the Church and Office remain closed. Church Administrator Ellen Sedgwick is in the office on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Support to Set-Up ZOOM Meetings for Church Gatherings

Ellen is able to schedule church-related ZOOM meetings. If you need to schedule a ZOOM meeting for your church purposes, please email her at office@uuellsworth.org or call the church at 207-667-4393 on Wednesdays or Thursdays when she's physically in the building, typically 11:00 a.m. to 3p.m. If your need is urgent and Ellen 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.



COVID-19 TASK FORCE

UUCE COVID-19 TASK FORCE CONTACT INFORMATION

Mary Haynes:

667-7596 (home)
207-266-2207 (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)



UUCE PLATE SPLIT FOR THE UPCOMING MONTHS:

January - March 2023

BETH WRIGHT CANCER RESOURCE CENTER

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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Minister Rev. Sara Hayman: 610-2872 (cell) sara@uuellsworth.org	Children's Religious Education Coordinator vacant
Church Office Administrator Ellen Sedgwick: 667-4393 office@uuellsworth.org	Music Director & Pianist Wayne Smith: 667-9482 wayne@mrlanguage.com

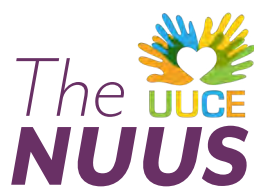
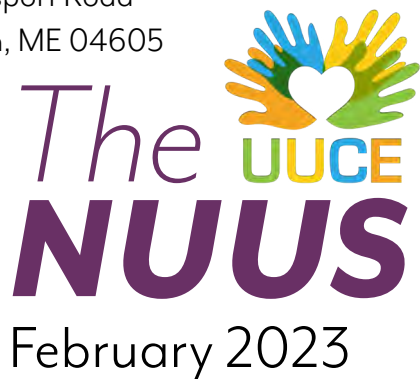
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: Gary Shellehamer to 2023 (667-0034)	Vice President: Beth Pepper to 2023
Treasurer: Alison Stephens to 2024	Secretary: Bob Francis to 2024
Trustee: Mary Murray to 2023	Trustee: Kathy Hall to 2024
Trustee: Sally Gervais to 2023	Moderator: John Fink

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE CHAIRS

Adult Committee on Education: vacant	Landscaping and Grounds: Bron Day
Aesthetics: Margaret Thurston	Loaves & Fishes: Beth Pepper, Nina Turner
Auction: vacant	Membership: Liz True
Building & Maintenance/Safety: Susan Opdycke	NUUSletter Editor: Lisa Williams
Charitable Giving: Rev. Sara Hayman	Pastoral Care Ministry: Kay Hansen
Choir: Haydée Foreman	Peace and Social Action: Barb Acosta
Collaborative Ministry: inactive at this time	Publicity: Susan Opdycke
Committee on Ministry: Karen Volckhausen	Children's Religious Education: Linda Uberseder
Congregational Engagement: Evelyn Foster	Small Group Ministry: Mary Murray
Cookie Walk: vacant	Stewardship: Doug Bird
Eggroll Project: vacant	Ushers: Jon Thomas, Ken Hanson
Ferry Beach Director: vacant	Technology Coordinator: vacant
Fiscal Matters: Connie Bailey	Wayside Pulpit: Nancy Guy
Flowers: Bronwen Day	Website: Esther Sampol
Green Sanctuary: Paul Kelley	Worship Arts: vacant
History/Archives: Wayne Smith	Yard Sale: Beth Pepper
Hospitality Ministry Coordinator: vacant	Youth Advisor: vacant

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



Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth

207-667-4393 www.uuellsworth.org

FEBRUARY 2023

Vol. 55, No.2

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.