



# The NUUS

## The Path of Vulnerability



MARCH 2023 VOLUME 55, NO. 3

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



### MINISTRY MATTERS

BY SARA HAYMAN

Welcome to our March NUUS, Beloveds. Thank you for choosing to be a part of our UUCE Community and wanting to know what we're up to together this month. I hope I see you soon!

Yours, in shared faith,  
*Rev. Sara*

P.S. On the followin page is a favorite poem about spring's arrival.

Click image to right to view a short video by Rev. Sara







## Richard Schiffman: “Late March”

Again the trees remembered  
to make leaves.  
In the forest of their recollection  
many birds returned  
singing.  
They sang, they sang  
because they forgave themselves  
the winter, and all that remained  
still bitter.  
Yet it was early spring,  
when the days were touch and go,  
and a late snow could nip a shoot,  
or freeze a fledgling in its nest.  
And where would we be then?  
But that’s not the point.  
Do you think the magpie doesn’t know  
that its chicks are at risk,  
or the peach trees, their too-frail blossoms,  
the new-awakened bees, all that is  
incipient within us?  
We know, but we can’t help ourselves

any more than they can,  
any more than the earth can  
stop hurtling through the night  
of its own absence.  
Must be something in the sap,  
the blood, a force like gravity,  
a trick called memory.  
You name it. Or leave it nameless  
that’s better—  
how something returns  
and keeps on returning  
through a gap,  
through a dimensional gate,  
through a tear in the veil.  
And there it is again.  
Another spring.  
To woo loss into song.

# MARCH WORSHIP SERVICES

## 10:30 A.M.

### Multi-Platform Worship at 10:30am

**Sunday, March 5**

**...fractal humility and epic connectedness**

Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader  
Cecily Judd, Worship Associate

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

Writer and social worker Brené Brown, PhD. writes, “vulnerability is the birthplace of love, belonging, joy, courage and creativity. It is the source of hope, empathy, accountability, and authenticity.” If we want to feel these things, we’ll need to be willing to have our hearts broken-open to what is also hard about being alive—suffering, pain, shame and grief. Vulnerability is a doorway into living more authentically and being able to feel more alive. What holds you back? What gets in the way? What gives you more courage to step through that doorway, again and again?

Today in worship, we’ll know the gift of special music by Juliane Gardiner and Christopher Poulin of Castine.

\* PLEASE BE AWARE this Sunday (3/5), 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 Worship at 10:30am

**\* Sunday, March 12**

**To dare to leap!**

Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader  
Jill Jeude, Worship Associate

New Member Recognition Ceremony! R.E. Classes today!  
Congregational Conversation after Worship! Grounds Cleanup after church!

What has life taught you about taking leaps of faith and leaping into the unknown? It takes courage and a willingness to be vulnerable—to risk failure and hurt—to stretch into live commitments, longings and callings that speak to you. In addition to welcoming new members into our congregation today, we’ll reflect on the life-giving possibilities of taking risks.

\* PLEASE BE AWARE this Sunday (3/12), 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.

3/5 Worship Service Zoom  
Meeting: [https://uuma.zoom.us/j/94005475269?](https://uuma.zoom.us/j/94005475269?pwd=TVVWWDVCRWFoVUJwTGhMU2lTSHFVZz09)  
[pwd=TVVWWDVCRWFoVUJwTGhMU2lTSHFVZz09](https://uuma.zoom.us/j/94005475269?pwd=TVVWWDVCRWFoVUJwTGhMU2lTSHFVZz09)  
Meeting ID: 940 0547  
5269  
Password: 722815  
Phone: 646-558-8656

3/12 Worship Service  
Zoom Meeting: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/92705119716?pwd=YXZSUytRWmVUWXBzSIQ4TDIudFYxQT09>  
Meeting ID: 927 0511  
9716  
Password: 046819  
Phone: 646-558-8656

**Multi-Platform Worship at 10:30am**

**\* Sunday, March 19**    **Mathematics of Vulnerability: Part I**  
Jeff Jeude, Guest Worship Leader  
Karen Volckhausen, Worship Associate

Music by Jill Jeude!

When we are in fellowship - in community - when we are honest and true with one another, it seems that our joys are multiplied and our pain divided. Join Jeff Jeude and Karen Volckhausen as they explore Being Vulnerable in Community.

\* PLEASE BE AWARE this Sunday (3/19), 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.

2/19 Worship Service Zoom  
Meeting: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/97401781101?pwd=UIh1cXIGNUxSTzRrUm9lbEdOcjlIQTO9>  
Meeting ID: 974 0178 1101  
Password: 091460  
Phone: 646-558-8656

**ZOOM-Only Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30am**

**Sunday, March 26**    **Mathematics of Vulnerability: Part II**  
Jeff Jeude, Guest Worship Leader  
Marta Rieman, Worship Associate

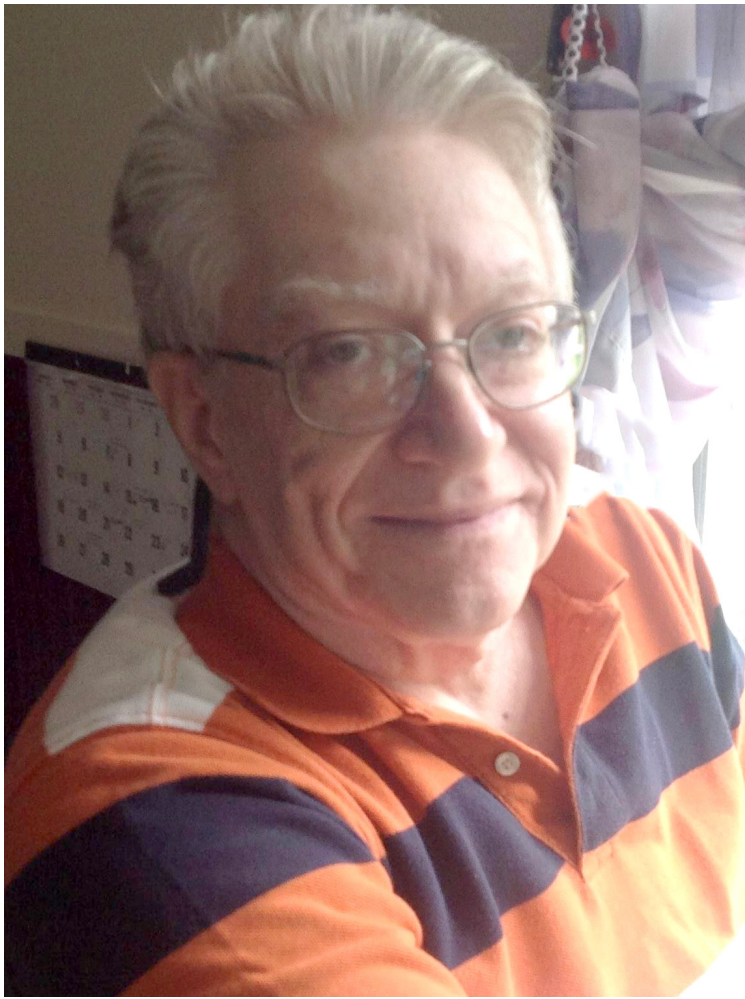
Music by Jill Jeude!

Building on what was shared the week prior, Jeff Jeude will continue his exploration of what vulnerability entails and why and how it matters in our lives.

3/26 Worship Service Zoom  
Meeting: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/93530897373?pwd=bXYxY2pieHdlZ0h1SHFtOFFIMElOdz09>  
Meeting ID: 935 3089 7373  
Password: 154981  
Phone: 646-558-8656







Multiplatform Memorial Service to  
*Celebrate the Life of*  
*Tom E. Stipe*

Saturday, March 4th, 2023 at 11 a.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/94101200824>

MEETING ID: 941 0120 0824

PHONE: 646-876 9923

Longtime and beloved church member Tom Stipe passed away peacefully in his home on Sunday, February 5th, 2023. Tom died with Nenie, his devoted wife, family members visiting from PA and their longtime friend Jefferson Jacobs by his side. According to Nenie, Tom's end was peaceful.

Over the last several months, Tom had experienced increased breathing difficulties at times and multiple ER visits and hospitalizations. He'd come home from the hospital on Wednesday, February 1st (also his birthday), and later that same day enrolled in hospice care.

Some in our church community have known Tom (and Nenie) for more than three decades. Rev. Charles Stephens married them, and Tom was an active member during Rev. Mark Worth's ministry at UUCE. Nancy Guy has been a loving friend from church who visited regularly for the past several years. I came to know Tom as an intensely thoughtful person, with a wry sense of humor, and a deep and abiding love for the planet that he wished more people shared!

Thank you for keeping Nenie in your thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. You are welcome to send cards to her at 36 Oak Street, Ellsworth, ME 04605.

Thank you for being at his Memorial Service (in-person or on-line) as you're able, and many, many thanks to all the church volunteers who are helping to create and host a reception following the service.

# Sad news to share about MICKEY WORTH

On Friday, February 24th at 4:15pm, Mickey Worth died peacefully at the Ellsworth Hospital with her beloved husband, Rev. Mark Worth, holding her hand.

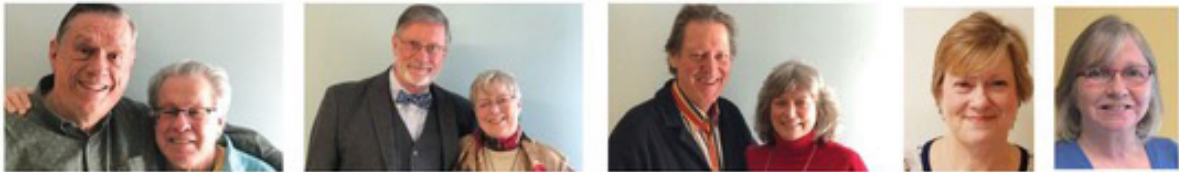
There will be a Memorial Service at UUCE to celebrate Mickey's life on Saturday, May 13th at 1pm.

Thank you for all your loving care for Mickey when she needed you most, and for Mark now who is making all the necessary adjustments.





# Stories FROM THE Heart



**Jude Lamb interviews  
Robin Lovrien, March  
12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.  
on ZOOM.**



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



## **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to**

Everyone who donated items, events and services, and who bid on things, and who logged on Saturday night to join in the fun.

SPECIAL THANKS to this year's incredible Tri-Chair Auction Leadership Team, Katherine Hubner, Lori Johnson & Jeff Jeude, and to our always fun-loving Live Auction Auctioneers, CJ Lammers and Beth Pepper! You all amaze me, and as far as I'm concerned, UUCE is truly the most generous & fun-loving congregation in the world! Rev. Sara

**Thank you to everyone that made this years auction a great success.**

**We raised almost \$10,000 to support the church and our many ministries.**

**Items are available for pick up at the church on Sunday March 5th from 1130am-3pm and also on Saturday March 11th from 10am-3pm.**

**If you need to arrange an additional time to pick up your items please contact Lori Johnson bogey41999@gmail.com**

## **FOR ALL UUCE MONEY MATTERS**

As we enter a new calendar year and prepare for our stewardship campaign, it seems like a good time to share the information about how to contact Jeff for all matters involving money, and our wonderful new Church Administrator, Ellen Sedgwick, about everything else!

If you have a question, comment, or need assistance with church events, worship services, weekly e-news, church rentals, board policies, any other church related questions, please contact Ellen at uucellsworth@gmail.com

If you have questions, comments, or need assistance with pledges, payments, donations, reimbursements, budget questions, please contact Jeff at financial.uuce@gmail.com

If you are unsure where to send your email, don't worry, Ellen and Jeff will make sure it gets to the right destination. Thank you for the trust you place in your church staff. We, along with Rev. Sara and the other committee and board chairs, look forward to a great 2023!





Our first semester of returning to in-person RE after the pandemic was wonderful thanks to members of our UUCE congregation who stepped forward to make sure we had children's programming. Thanks again to teachers Dartha and Hazel Reid, Jim Fisher, Dave and Janet Szarmach, Susan Aripotch and Carol Rosinski who all showed up on RE Sundays from September through February to provide activities from The Tapestry of Faith curriculum for our kids.

Our second semester starts on March 5th and 12th. Again, members of our congregation have said they would help with the RE programs. Thank you to Carol Rosinski, Doni Whitehead, Penel Houghton, Jen Ryan and Jenni Morgan who will be working with the kids this spring. Our multi-generational Sunday will be March 19th.

Our 2nd session will use the Soul Matters Curriculum on the first Sunday of each month and Spirit Play

stories on the 2nd Sundays. The curriculums are full of fun activities, crafts, and games and it will be a multi-age class from K – 8th grade. We are hoping to start the OWL (Our Whole Lives) program for our middle school age kids this spring.

You may sign up your child for OWL until the March 12 deadline. We must have 8 young people signed up to have the program go forward. Paul Kelley and his wife Kate O'Dell have agreed to coordinate this program.

We are excited that interviews are going forward for a new RE Coordinator. Meanwhile, Christine Bowman has agreed to be the interim chair of RE. If you have any questions about the RE offerings this spring, please feel free to contact her at 244-1126 or [ccs9762@aol.com](mailto:ccs9762@aol.com).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, March 8, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Why Tribal Sovereignty? A Discussion with Maulian Dana** (online via Zoom). Co-sponsored by Curtis Library, Brunswick, Midcoast Indigenous Awareness Group and Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick. Register [here](#). Encourage your legislators, especially freshmen who are not familiar with tribal sovereignty to attend this free event. This is also a great introduction or review on key talking points for allies.

**Friday, March 17, 12 to 1 pm, Federal Indian Policy: Impacts on the Wabanaki Nations in Maine... and Beyond. Lunch & Learn by Maine Conservation Voters** (online via Zoom). Register [here](#).

**Saturday, March 25, 5 - 6 pm. Pine Tree Power Ballot Initiative.** In-person at UUCE or online via Zoom. Interested Maine citizens are invited to attend a thirty minute presentation about the Pine Tree Power ballot initiative that will be followed by time for questions. The talk will consider the differences between consumer-owned utilities and our current investor-owned utilities (CMP & Versant), how Pine Tree Power would be structured, and how it can help us to address our climate crisis

as well as make our energy more affordable. The event is free and open to the public. Register for Zoom link [here](#) or contact [drabarb@gmail.com](mailto:drabarb@gmail.com).

**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!

**Black History in Maine**  
February was Black History Month but at UUCE EVERY month is Black History Month. Have you explored our UUCE Black History library? Look for it in the RE wing. Our resources continue to expand with new offerings. You can check out a book at any time!

You may also find a list of web-based Black History resources [here](#).

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





# 8TH PRINCIPLE NEWS

**Book discussion:** *Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism* meets on Thurs. March 2nd and March 16 at 4:00 p.m. Contact Barb Acosta, drabarb@gmail.com, with any questions.

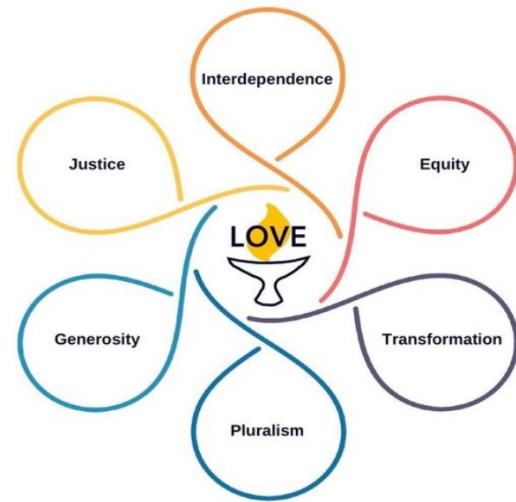
**Thursday, March 30, 4:30 - 6 pm. Stumbling in the Right Direction: the Journey Toward Anti-Racism.** Rusty Vaughan was a member of the UU Church of Annapolis, one of the five churches portrayed in the book *Mistakes and Miracles: Congregations on the Road to Multiculturalism* by Nancy Palmer Jones and Karin Lin. Rusty will describe his personal journey as a white man “stumbling in the right direction,” and as a member of a UU church journeying toward wholeness. He will share lessons learned along the road to becoming a diverse, multicultural, anti-racist congregation. This program is free and open to any member or friend of UUCE. Click [here](#) to register or email drabarb@gmail.com.

**Racial Equity Monthly Discussion.** Join the combined Belfast, Castine, Ellsworth racial equity discussion group on Tues., March 14, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. **Guest speaker is historian Seth Goldstein, Atlantic Black Box Tour leader.** The Atlantic Black Box Project explores the history of the slave trade in New England.

**Atlantic Black Box Walking Tour of Portland-March 18.** Learn about the Wabanaki, Portland’s Indigenous inhabitants, the French and Indian wars, the slave, shipping and sugar trade out of Portland, and Portland’s community of free individuals from the African Diaspora who were active in the Underground Railroad and the Abolitionist Movement. The tour includes a stop at the Abyssinian Meeting House, the U.S.’ third oldest remains African Meeting House. FMI: : <https://atlanticblackbox.com/about/> & <https://atlanticblackbox.com/tag/seth-goldstein/>

Join the 8th Principle Task Force for a walking tour on **Saturday, March 18, in Portland, ME.** Tour begins at 1:00 p.m. for approximately 90 minutes. Meet at the corner of Commercial and India Streets. Asking attendees to make a \$25 donation as you are able, to cover the cost of the tour. Checks made out to UUCE w/”walking tour” in memo line. Children the age of 12 and

up and families welcome. Registration required, 18-20 folks limit. Car pooling may be option. Email Ellen at ucellworth@gmail.com. FMI contact Jana Robinson, 8th Principle Task Force at janasmith.robinson@outlook.com or 207-247-9008.



## UUA Bylaws Article II

**Did you know our UU Principles may be changing?** After a multi-year listening project, the Article II Study Commission appointed by the UUA has proposed revisions to Article II of the bylaws, which includes our 7 principles. The proposal will go to a vote at the June 2023 General Assembly. If it passes it will be submitted for a final vote at GA 2024. We invite UUCE members to read the Article II Study Commission’s report found [here](#). The 8th Principle Journey Task Force will be setting up small group conversations to learn more about the proposed changes prior to the June General Assembly. Stay tuned for more information or contact Jana Robinson, janasmith.robinson@outlook.com, if interested in participating in a group conversation.

**Save the Date, Saturday, May 20. field trip to Malaga Island.** The 8th principle task force is planning a field trip to Malaga Island in May, tentative date is Saturday May 20. For more information about the mixed race cultural community that lived on Malaga Island from the mid-1800s to 1912 until they were forcibly removed by the state of Maine. See the following:

**Facing the Past: Malaga Island** - 10minutes

**Malaga Island Descendant Laura Harrison Shares Her Family’s Story** - 7 min

Maine State Museum [article](#) about island history and forcible removal



# MARCH IS HERE...

## FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT GARY SHELLHAMER



March is here, and your board continues visioning UUCE's future to include the ongoing changes made because of the pandemic as well as ideas for the future. COVID led to a number of transformations to ensure maintaining our loving connections. Now that we are cautiously moving to more in-person gatherings, there is an excitement at being together again and working on how we will "do church" in ways that incorporate some of our previous methods but with an opportunity to have discussions on what we together can create as we move forward.

As I noted last month, your board has revised the policy for masking, based on the recommendation of our COVID-19 Task Force. In February, we moved to a masks-optional worship while maintaining both an area in the sanctuary for attendees who prefer to be masked as well as a masks-required worship area in the community room. The task force still monitors pandemic data in Maine and Hancock County and, if these show an increase in risk, will adjust the mask requirement accordingly, per our existing policy regarding data-driven procedures.

The board is also completing a final review of the updates to UUCE's Disruptive Behavior Policy and will be sending that to the office, once it has been signed.

Your Stewardship Committee is beginning this year's pledge campaign as we keep on moving forward. We appreciate how you

have sustained our community over the past three years and look forward to working together for UUCE's upcoming fiscal year.

A task force is forming and volunteers are sought to envision the future of the Loaves and Fishes building. If you are interested in being a part of the group discussing both short- and long-term uses of the building, please contact Kathy Hall ([kathy.hall@comcast.net](mailto:kathy.hall@comcast.net)).

Don't forget you can purchase cards for Hannaford's and Shaw's! A percent of your payment at the store will be donated to UUCE. Sally Gervais is selling the cards on Sundays in the Community Room after our in-person worship services. You can also contact Sally Gervais at: [Sall1937@yahoo.com](mailto:Sall1937@yahoo.com) or 207-837-0353.

On a personal note, the deaths of Tom, Jane, and Mickey saddened me. We will keep our memories of them and share the grief through support of their families.

~ 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



SUSAN HUGHES AND TOM MARTIN  
WOULD LIKE TO HIRE SOMEONE  
TO HELP WITH BASIC HOUSE  
CLEANING ON A BIWEEKLY BASIS.

FMI, CALL 207-667-6128  
OR EMAIL  
THOSEDMARTIN@MYFAIRPOINT.NET







Wayne H. Smith  
UUCE Historian

# TOM STIPE (1950-2023), IN HIS OWN WORDS

Interview with Tom Stipe on Jan. 27, 2023 (Part 1)

My background is Pennsylvania Dutch. My mother was the daughter of a fairly well-to-do poultry farmer. They had a big poultry farm in Codorus, Pennsylvania, out of Spring Grove, not too far from York, which is a fairly good-sized town south of Harrisburg. My father was from York. His name was Edward Kendig Stipe. My mother's maiden name was Erma Catherine Zech. They had a big poultry farm and they sold lots of eggs and chickens. When the layers were done, they would turn them into meat. My parents both came of age during the Depression, and people still had to eat, and being on the outskirts of a big city, they did quite well during the Depression. When my mother graduated from high school, she decided she wanted to be independent so she went into nurse's training and that's where she met my dad, at York Hospital in Pennsylvania.

My father, on the other hand, was a skinny rat. He liked to say he grew up like a weed. I get the impression that his childhood was kind of rough. His father had died in 1918 during the big Spanish Flu pandemic. That's why I kind of expected to get taken out by this pandemic because, you know, it kind of skipped a generation. When my dad met my mother, he was like a Fuller Brush

salesman. He was a Grade-A bulls\*\*\*\*er. Now this is just a supposition on my part, but I think that he sort of kept his eye out for a woman with some money so that he could marry up. That was the only hope he had of getting out of poverty. I think he had perceived somehow that she was a woman with money and her family rejected because he was of a lower class. He had quite a personality, so that even though he was nothing to speak of, he was quite a speaker. He could bullshit his way into anything. Anyway, he convinced my mother to marry him, and they got married back in the late 30s, between 37 and 39.

After they got married, they moved around quite a bit. I was born in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on Feb. 1, 1950. I like to say that my first address was the Gettysburg Address. That's where my dad went to school. I think he convinced my grandfather to fund his education. So he went to school during World War II. He went to Gettysburg

College. There was a seminary there and he went on to get his degree there and became a Lutheran minister. I had always assumed that he got out of World War II because he was in the ministry, but my mother said that he was actually a biology major and



that the government wanted biology majors at the time, so that's how he got out of WWII.

I have one younger sister, Mary, who is still alive, an older sister, Jean, and an older brother, Joseph. We grew up in several towns. It seemed that we moved every three or four years. My father served various churches, but when he could he preferred teaching. For a while he taught philosophy and Western Civilization at Ashland College. I remember living in Ashland.

Someone told me that my last name sounded Austrian, but who knows. Most Pennsylvania Dutch came over here in the 1830s and 1840s, and most of them were Lutheran. My mother's side of the family was Evangelical United Brethren or EUB. My father was comfortable in the Lutheran church, and that's where we ended up. My father was involved in a fairly large Lutheran Church in York, and that was where his roots were. He contracted Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS) while we were in Dover, Ohio and he wanted to be closer to home in York, PA. When he got home, my mother took a refresher course for nurses and went back to nursing. She worked the 3 to 11 shift, and when I'd get back from school at 3:00, I'd take over my Dad's care while she was working. He also had quite a few friends from when he was in college and other Lutheran ministers in the York area, and they would come in like once a week and spend the night with him while my mother got a good night's sleep. I saw him kind of wither away. It was pretty hard on him because he felt he was in the prime of life. He was maybe 45 when they diagnosed him, and he was 48 when he died in 1967.

I graduated from West York High School in 1968. Then I went to Gettysburg College where I majored in chemistry. In college, I got involved in a fraternity, the Delta Omicron chapter of Theta Chi. It was more of a social fraternity. We had a house, actually a couple of buildings that were close to each other. This was back during Vietnam, and as it happened with the whole country, it kind of split the house in two. There were the "freaks and the

straights." The "freaks" were all opposed to the war, and the "straights" were all for the war. It was part of the time. One of my fraternity brothers had a brother who was running helicopters in Vietnam and he was a member of the NRA. And there were members of the fraternity that were in ROTC (the Reserve Officer Training Corps). And then there were us freaks that were smoking a lot of marijuana and having a good time.

At a certain point, I had taken all the math I could in my high school, but they wouldn't let me take calculus in my first year. The next year, I had calculus, and it was at, like, 8:00 in the morning, which was awfully early for a class, and I was just bored out of my mind. As the final approached, I realized that I had a whole semester's worth of homework to make up and I spent an all-nighter preparing for the exam and did all the homework, and I finally understood what the course was about. So in one night I learned the whole course, and I aced the final.

The next year, I went in for my chemistry course and they filled the blackboard up...it was like three or four blackboards long...and they filled it up with calculus equations, erased it, then filled it up again, erased it, then filled it up again, and that was a lecture. The next day, I'd come in and they had filled the blackboard up another three or four times with calculus equations, and I just didn't have it. I could do it in the abstract, but if you gave me a blackboard full of calculus equations, I just.... If I had sat down and talked to the professor and said, "Look, work a problem through for me here. Don't just give me the abstract. Tell me how you worked each one," maybe I'd have been able to catch up, but as it was I just said, "Oh, the hell with it!"

By this time I was radicalized about the war. It wasn't just the war. It was the environmental movement had taken off, and women's lib, and the space race, and the arms race, and nuclear Armageddon was all hanging over our heads. Gettysburg wasn't all that far from Washington, DC, so a couple of us would hitchhike down to

DC and we got involved in some protests. This would have been around 69 or 70, probably my sophomore year. I remember a bunch of us standing across the street from one of the big buildings...maybe the Department of Justice, one of those big buildings, and there were a lot of rambunctious protestors down there, and from a distance we could see the policemen with their batons and shields and everything. They were pounding the whole group, and they started tearing the flag down and I thought "Oh God, this is not going to end well."

1968 was a particularly turbulent year. That's when Martin Luther King and Bobby Kennedy were killed. There were also the riots at the Democratic National Convention. It was also the year that Paul Ehrlich wrote *The Population Bomb*. It was a warning about the dangers of overpopulation. While I never really read the original, I was aware of some of the controversy surrounding that, and there is still controversy to this day. We've just crossed into eight billion people, and I know that can't continue. At some point, there's got to be a correction.

I never did graduate from Gettysburg College. Around 1970, I dropped out after that chemistry course. During that time period there was a lottery for the draft. My draft number was 86. I went to the local draft board and asked what number they were on, and they said, "85." So, I said, "OK," and I immediately started working on getting Conscientious Objector (CO) status, which I got and then I did alternate service in what had been a state mental hospital in Crownsville, Maryland, about 8 or 9 miles from Annapolis. I spent most of that time living in Annapolis in an apartment, although I spent some time living on the grounds at Crownsville. They had a dormitory, but I got kicked out of it. My roommate and I had adjoining rooms and we used one room as our dorm room and we used the other room for smoking dope. I was supposed to work at Crownsville for two years, but as it turned out, they had stopped drafting for active military duty in my

draft area around 1971, and it was determined that I didn't have to serve the full two years. I only had to serve about a year and a half, so I got out a little early, about "1971 and a half."

I decided to go back to school. There was a junior college in my home town, York College of Pennsylvania, which was in the process of developing a full-time school, and I went back to school, briefly, as a biology major, and I should have stuck with that, but a friend of mine from Gettysburg told me that he had gotten into teaching and he liked it. They had a big elementary education program, and I decided, "Oh, elementary education, that's not too bad." So, I switched to elementary education. The main difference between York College and Gettysburg is that I got much better grades at York College. Gettysburg was a tougher school. I just wish I had had my head together going as a biology major rather than a chemistry major. I finished that degree probably in 75.

1975 is also the year that I met my first wife, Maryann Glaspey. She was 18 and I don't know exactly why she fell for me. I was a senior and was, like, 25 and she was 18, so there was a big age gap there. And I fell hard, and I think she was relatively inexperienced, and I think she was in the middle of an adolescent rebellion from her parents. She was breaking away from her parents. So the whole thing wasn't exactly her. It was her rebellious phase. I wrote her a poem and it convinced her to drop out of school and marry me.

I got a job teaching junior high math and science way back in the hills of Durban, West Virginia. It was an interesting area. I liked the mountains, but it was a poor area. One of the ironies of a rural state like that was that they required the kids to buy their own textbooks, and needless to say, but the time I got my 7th and 8th graders, a lot of these kids had never owned a textbook in their whole lives, and, thus, had never learned how to read. For math, they hardly needed a textbook. It was a series of steps, and at some point you had to learn decimals and at other times



you had to learn fractions. It's just a step-by-step process. So I could teach math blindfolded. But in order to teach science, they had to be able to read the textbook. I had three or four students who could read, so I had them read the text while I policed the students. I'd walk up and down the rows trying to keep those kids in their seats. I managed to get through the year, but it kind of chewed me up and spit me out. They were chewing tobacco in class. The principal would come into the room chewing tobacco, and while he was talking he'd lean over and spit into the trashcan.

In 1976, I decided that I wanted to learn some carpentry so I learned some basic carpentry skills. I was getting the itch to buy a piece of property and settle down, and my wife had been raised in New Jersey, along the coast, and she told me she wanted to live near salt water, and I knew I wanted to live someplace where it wasn't too crowded, and if you put those two factors together, not crowded, salt water, east coast and where on the east coast is it not too crowded: Maine. We were down on Deer Isle, which is another pretty nice place.

As soon as we lived here in Maine, I got a soil survey map and I decided I wanted to try to do organic gardening, and I found this piece of property in north Penobscot that was good soil, the best soil I could find in Hancock county. Basically, it had been a rock pit, like a lot of the blueberry barrens around here, lots of boulders and stuff, but the rocks had been thrown into gullies and it had been used for agriculture for quite a while. I bought this property and built a little 16' X 16' cabin and we lived there for one winter. It was pretty primitive living. It was heated with a wood stove, and it had an outhouse. She put up with that for about a year, and that was it. That really killed the marriage. I figure I was married to my first wife for about the time that Jimmy Carter was president, basically from 75 to 80. As soon as Reagan came into office, I was set free. She divorced me. We didn't have any

children. She was more than happy to say good-bye to me, that's for sure. I never saw her happier than the day she left me.

I had been working as a custodian at the elementary school in Penobscot, but I was going to try to do organic gardening. In order to be successful as an organic farmer, you've got to have livestock so that you can have manure, and if you have livestock, you've got to be able to kill it, and I was not good at killing anything. I had a flock of chickens, and I went out one day and one of them had been pecked almost to death by the other chickens in the pecking order. And the one at the bottom of the pecking order was almost dead, and I decided, "Well, I've got to kill it," so I tried chopping its head off and I did it, but I almost blew lunch. I knew you could get used to it, but I didn't want to get used to killing things. When I cut its head off, I didn't know that I did not get the vocal cords. They were still in the throat. And it sat out in the sun all afternoon and kind of filled up with gas, and I had planted some fruit trees and the grass that was there was old and really knotted together, so it was really solid clumps, and I dug up a big clump of soil near the base of one of those trees, and I put the chicken body down in the hole and flopped this big piece of sod on top of it and it squeezed the air out through the vocal cords and this dead, headless chicken went "Aaaahhh" when I threw the soil on top of it. It freaked me out. Being this squeamish little turd that I was, I decided "Nope," I guess I'm not going to be an organic farmer. I still grew stuff. I just cheated and used chemical fertilizer. I still liked to grow things anyway. I did that for, like, four or five years. I was not having much success at anything.

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.

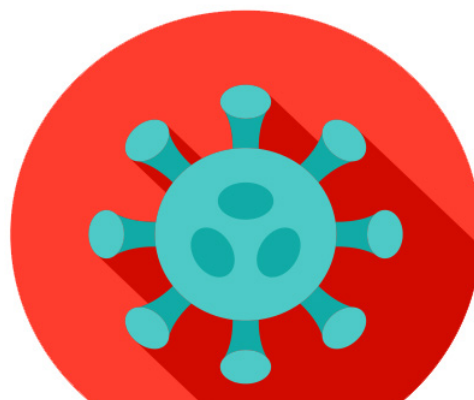


## UUCE OFFICE

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](mailto: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](mailto: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

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

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

## COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE CHAIRS

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

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



March 2023



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

207-667-4393 [www.uuellsworth.org](http://www.uuellsworth.org)

**MARCH 2023**

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