



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF ELLSWORTH

# The NUUS

APRIL 2025 VOLUME 57, NO. 4

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW  
AND CHOOSE TO BE A PART OF UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS  
IN OUR UUCE COMMUNITY

## COME SING IN THE CHOIR

*with Meg O'Dell Directing!*

**Sundays, April 6 and 13 at 9am**

Sing in worship with choir on April 6!

Reach out to Tori Bell, [toribell14@gmail.com](mailto:toribell14@gmail.com),

if you want to receive choir emails.

(See article in NUUS about UUCE Choir)

## COME TO RE CLASS this Month

*with Charles Betancourt & Jess Hill, RE Assistant!*

**Sundays, April 13 & 27 at 10:30am**

(Time for All Ages in worship, then Religious Exploration Classes!) Contact Charles Betancourt, RE Coordinator, [Uuce.re@gmail.com](mailto:Uuce.re@gmail.com), for more info! We'd love to get to know your kiddos!

## "JOURNEY OF PEACE & FRIENDSHIP"

**PRAYER WALK** A 7-Day Multi-Faith, Cross-Cultural Prayer Walk Honoring the Dignity & Sacredness of Every Living Being

Begins Tuesday, April 22nd on Indian Island with Opening Ceremony at 9am and ends at the Maine State House on Tuesday, April 29th with Closing Ceremony at 12pm.

(See more info and share the poster in this NUUS!)

## OUR NEXT MONTHLY ADVENTURE IN FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, FUN!

*In the Community Room at UUCE*

**Thursday, May 1, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm**

Hosted by Jeff Jeude & Rev. Sara (See more of a description of this gathering in this NUUS!)





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

## APRIL WORSHIP SERVICES

**SUNDAY, APR 6, 2025**

**Multi-Platform Worship at 10:30am  
For Crying Out Loud!**

Rev. Sara Hayman, Worship Leader  
Kay Wilkins & Abigail Cossette, Worship Associates

UUUCE Choir Practice at 9am!  
4th Quarter Plate Split to benefit Seeds of Peace!  
UU Wellspring Class from 2-4pm!

4/06 Worship Service Zoom Meeting:  
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/5157959121?omn=97126018386>  
Meeting ID: 515 795 9121  
Phone: 646-558-8656

Today in worship, Rev. Sara reflects on her deep knowing about the real joys of shared ministry at UUUCE that offer the promise of changing us all for the better!

**SUNDAY, APR 13, 2025**

**Multi-Platform Worship at 10:30am  
Another spring to woo loss into song...**

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

UUUCE Choir Practice at 9am & Choir Sings in Worship!  
RE today!  
**New Member Welcome Ceremony!**  
2nd Congregational Conversation w/ Rev. Benjamin Perry  
from 12-1:30pm in sanctuary & on ZOOM!

4/13 Worship Service Zoom Meeting:  
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/5157959121?omn=97126018386>  
Meeting ID: 515 795 9121  
Phone: 646-558-8656

Joy and sorrow, it's said, are woven fine. Making room to be present and feel the grief and sorrow at work in us, also helps us to find and feel the possibility of more joy and heart-breaking-open beauty. In worship today, we make room to name these truths and to call each other into the promise of deepening trust and friendship that will help us to grow.

**"The Sacred Work of Making Space to Have Hard Conversations"**

*A 2nd Congregational Conversation from 12-1:30pm in the sanctuary & on ZOOM*

Rev. Sara asks you to please plan to attend this 2nd Congregational Conversation with Rev. Benjamin Perry facilitating. We will learn a little and hold sacred space to listen generously to each other as part of strengthening the practice of covenant and community building among us. All are welcome!

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**SUNDAY, APR 20, 2025**

**Multi-Platform Worship at 10:30am  
Practice Resurrection!**

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

4/20 Worship Service Zoom Meeting:  
[https://uuma.zoom.us/  
j/5157959121?omn=97126018386](https://uuma.zoom.us/j/5157959121?omn=97126018386)  
Meeting ID: 515 795 9121  
Phone: 646-558-8656

Easter Egg Hunt before church! More info to come!

Though we may wish it were otherwise, there are no short cuts when it comes to leaning into the possibility of resurrection, of death and dying that can leads to experiences of new and renewed life. Where are you practicing letting go in order to be and feel more alive again? This Easter Sunday, we ponder the challenges and promises of resurrection in our lives and the world.

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**SUNDAY, APR 27, 2025**

**Multi-Platform Multigenerational Worship at 10:30am  
Let JOY find YOU**

Jeff Jeude, Guest Worship Leader  
Candace Hubbard, Worship Associate

4/27 Worship Service Zoom Meeting:  
[https://uuma.zoom.us/  
j/5157959121?omn=97126018386](https://uuma.zoom.us/j/5157959121?omn=97126018386)  
Meeting ID: 515 795 9121

RE Class today!

Some days (weeks, hours, moments) our greatest achievement may just be to survive. It's a harsh, ever-changing, dystopian world for many of us. The concept of FINDING my own peace, my own solitude, my own joy may seem like tireless work. Important to do, but occasionally difficult to achieve. Join us as we "Flip the task" and let the joy find us. It is possible. Come and be discovered by the joy in the world.

## WEDNESDAY MORNING MATINS AT 8 AM



Are you longing for a 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. We hope you will come!

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



# MINISTRY MATTERS

BY SARA HAYMAN



Welcome to your April NUUS!  
We are so glad you are here.  
We hope you'll find a right  
invitation to come and be a  
part of our UUCE community.

Here's a poem I love and re-  
read every year at this time.  
I hope it speaks to you, too.

Yours, in our shared ministries,  
*Rev. Sara*

## **"Late March,"**

by Richard Schiffman

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 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 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.





## *Are You Interested in* **Becoming a Member of UUCE?**

We would love to welcome you into loving membership if that seems right for you at this time.

A New Membership Welcome Ceremony  
will be part of the Sunday Morning Worship Service on **April 13, 2025.**

Please contact Liz True, Membership Committee Chair, [eatrue9@gmail.com](mailto:eatrue9@gmail.com)  
or Rev. Sara [sara@uellsworth.org](mailto:sara@uellsworth.org) for more information.

# Keeping our Doors and Hearts Open to All



SHARING OUR  
RESOURCES  
TO MAINTAIN  
SANCTUARY  
AND FOSTER  
SOLIDARITY

Last year, you pledged \$150,413.00 to **Keep Sharing the Light of UUCE into the World Together!** To date, we have received 78% of that with just 66% the fiscal year 2024/2025 completed. Way to go!

This year our goal is to raise **\$160,290** in pledge income for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year to **Keep our Doors and Hearts Open to All** by Sharing our **Resources to Maintain Sanctuary and Foster Solidarity!**

This is an increase of 9.3%. How did we get to that goal?

Reverend Sara, the Fiscal Matters Committee, and the Board of Trustees see these meaningful increases as essential to the long-term health of our church community:

- Cost of living adjustments to maintain our fabulous staff
- A regular savings plan to support our upcoming sabbatical and intern years
- Much-needed improvements in campus safety and emergency preparedness
- Values-based purchasing, including fair-trade foods and safe cleaning products
- Necessary assistance for our Tech Operators and Religious Exploration staff
- Increases in our community support and Charitable Giving
- Striving toward improving our fair share of financial support of the UUA

**Our Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Stewardship Campaign runs from April 2nd to May 4th, 2025.**  
**EPledge cards and paper pledge cards will be sent on April 2nd.**

**With your help, we know we can get there!**  
**THANK YOU!**

**Your Stewardship Committee,**  
**Suzanne Aubrey, Sally Francis, Mac MacDonald,**  
**Linda Tarlow, Linda Uberseder, Doug Bird, Chair**



# A JOURNEY OF PEACE & FRIENDSHIP

KINDLING MORAL  
COURAGE, KINDNESS,  
AND CONNECTION



## APRIL 22-29, 2025

A 7-DAY MULTI-FAITH, CROSS-CULTURAL  
PRAYER WALK HONORING THE DIGNITY  
& SACREDNESS OF EVERY LIVING BEING

This journey begins on **Tuesday, April 22** at the Penobscot Nation Boat Landing and concludes on **Tuesday, April 29** at the State House in Augusta. Sherri Mitchell, Esq., Director of the Land Peace Foundation, along with members of her staff and a small group of interfaith, justice and other Wabanaki leaders, are working together to organize this prayerful procession.

### WHAT IS THE JOURNEY OF PEACE & FRIENDSHIP?

It is an invitation to connect, an opportunity to move in loving solidarity with our friends and neighbors, to purposely walk toward the world that we most want to inhabit. We are coming together to actively embody our deepest held social values and most aspirational spiritual goals, such as: kindness, acceptance, mutual care, and respect.

### WHAT DOES THE JOURNEY LOOK LIKE?

We will begin on Earth Day, with an opening ceremony led by Wabanaki Peoples on the banks the Penobscot River. Here, the first people of this land will extend the hand of peace and friendship to all of those who have come to their homelands seeking peace, refuge, safety, and a better life for their families. We will then offer our collective gratitude to the sacred mother who has welcomed us all, Nikwus Skitkomiq, Mother Earth.

Following the opening ceremony, we will share a community meal then begin our processional. The first day will end with a closing prayer in Orono.

We will begin and end each day with a prayer, ritual, or ceremony led by one or more of the faith or cultural groups supporting this event, with longer prayer gatherings being held Saturday, April 26th at noon and Sunday April 27th at 6 PM.

We will arrive at the Maine State House in Augusta on April 29th at 11:30 am, where we will hold a multi-faith, multi-cultural prayer and gratitude ceremony focused on our shared values, hopes, and commitments for a more humane, safe, and loving world.

A detailed schedule will be posted just prior to the event, and a map will be given to those walking with us each day.

All those interested in joining us in the spirit of peace and friendship are welcome.

There are many ways for you to participate. Here are some suggestions:

- **Attend the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.**
- **Walk with us for all or a portion of each day.**
- **Join us for the beginning or end of day prayer ceremonies, locations TBA.**
- **Host prayer or ceremonial circles with your friends or neighbors from your location at the time of the walk, uplifting the values connected to this journey.**
- **Drive a support vehicle to help those walking.**
- **Provide sealed snacks or drinks for those walking.**
- **Contribute to the potluck meal for the Opening ceremony, or the Saturday or Sunday prayer ceremonies (If you are contributing to these meals please bring a dish with a label listing all ingredients to prevent any allergy issues).**
- **Make a donation to the Land Peace Foundation to help with logistical needs during the walk.**

For up-to-date information about this journey, please go the **Land Peace Foundation** website: <https://www.landpeacefoundation.org/events/a-journey-of-peace-friendship>. Please mail [info@landpeacefoundation.org](mailto:info@landpeacefoundation.org) for more information. You are also welcome to reach out to me, **Sara Hayman**, Minister at the UU Church of Ellsworth, working with others to help plan this prayer walk: cell/text: **207-610-2872**, or email at [sara@uuelsworth.org](mailto:sara@uuelsworth.org).





D R U M



C I R C L E



# WOMEN'S DRUM CIRCLE

Saturdays, April 12 & 26

1:00 - 2:30 at UUCE

Sharing drum songs, improvisational rhythms, chants and raising energy. No prior experience needed. We have drums to share. Contact Mary Murray for more information [marydmurray@comcast.net](mailto:marydmurray@comcast.net)



# UUCE JUSTICE MINISTRY

Feeling anger, despair, or sadness about the current situation? Find hope in community and action. Justice Ministry invites all in our congregation to gather with us after Sunday services in the sanctuary. We are focusing on three areas of work: direct assistance/mutual aid, protecting democracy, and protecting people. Check the weekly e-news and the bulletin boards and literature rack in the Community Room for meeting dates and to stay in the loop. To join the Justice Ministry email list, share information or ask a question, reach out to Jana Robinson .

**Welcoming Congregation.** In our journey towards becoming a more welcoming congregation, a group of UUCE members met with the Rev. Benjamin Perry last week after services for an open conversation to learn about the experiences of trans and queer people. The personal stories told by some of our own moved us deeply and led us to wanting to learn more about how to support our members and families who identify as non-binary, queer or trans. We hope to continue this conversation as more of us learn the reasons it is important to share our pronouns and how to ensure we are truly welcoming. See the April 8 webinar below for such an opportunity. Questions: [janasmith.robinson@outlook.com](mailto:janasmith.robinson@outlook.com).

In the meantime, we encourage all UUCE members to wear their nametags with their pronouns. It makes a big difference by helping our members feel welcome, seen and included.



## April 5, 2025 – Hands Off! Maine Fights Back

**Mass gathering of everyone in Augusta, Maine!** Hands off our rights! Hands off our health care! Hands off Veteran's benefits! Hands off immigrants! Hands off Social Security! Hands off our National Parks! Hands off NOAA! Hands off USAID! Hands off education! Hands off DEI/LGBTQ+! Restore our democracy! What do you want Trump/Musk/DOGE to stop doing? If you can't make it to Augusta, a smaller rally is planned for Bangor. Contact [JUSTICE MINISTRY EMAIL] if you are interested in carpooling. <https://www.mobilize.us/handsoff/>

## Hands Off! Maine Fights Back

[event/764545/](https://www.mobilize.us/handsoff/event/764545/)

**April 8, 2025. Defend Trans Lives: A webinar for people of faith.**  
<https://www.transformingheartscollective.org/people-of-faith-defend-trans-lives>

**The NUUS** April 2025





# *Weekly Vigils*

## **Tuesdays**

**11am.** Peaceful Protest at Federal Building in Bangor

**12 pm.** Tuesdays at Tesla in Waterville around the Tesla Charging Station, Elm Plaza on Main Street

## **Wednesdays**

**12 pm.** Peace & Social Justice Ctr. vigil. 6 State Street, Bangor.

## **Saturdays**

**12pm** Weekly Protest. 18 Union St. Blue Hill

**12:30** Weekly Protest. Verona Island Bridge, Bucksport

## **Sundays**

**12pm.** Peace Vigil and Palestine Protest. River Bridge, Ellsworth

[www.activatemaine.com/public-calendar](http://www.activatemaine.com/public-calendar)



# Hello Congregants and Friends, **RE**

Hello All, We are now into April (can you believe it? Out of the first quarter of 2025 already?)

April is the Practice Of Joy and it reminds me of one of my favorite bible verses that was recently made popular again by the television show Fort Salem.

Matthew 7 verses 7-8

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and ye shall find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Joy is that door. What does your door look like? How will you be expressing Joy this month? Will you be knocking on the door or will you be opening it and welcoming someone to walk through yours?

We have some new things coming to RE in the upcoming weeks. We will be attempting to break apart our one-room school house model and give our older youth cohort access to a new curriculum separate from the younger youth. Although to date our one room school house model has worked, our attendance has increased to the point where the children would benefit more from being separate to focus on their individual needs and growth. This curriculum is called “The Village” and they will be building their own literal village through the moral and ethical lens of Unitarian Universalism and give

them live action scenarios to put those ethics and morals into use. This split will begin (hopefully) on our April 27th session and give us 5 sessions this church year to explore how this will benefit all.

This lovely experiment was brought to our attention by one of the new families that have been attending regularly and we relish in holding up these new ideas for our youth and for our congregation. If you have any thoughts, opinions, criticisms or praise, please email me at [uuce.re@gmail.com](mailto:uuce.re@gmail.com) and these will be shared and addressed with the RE Committee.

We are only as good as the doors we hold for each other. Be the Joyful door, walk through it with me on a new adventure of happiness and peace. There is an old quote that is used quite a bit, “When one door closes another one opens” but I want us to look at the entire quote.

“When one door closes another door opens; but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we do not see the ones which open for us.” ~Alexander Graham Bell

Don’t allow your regret to blind you to the open doors of Joy all around you. “Knock and the door shall be open”



Brightest Blessings,  
Charles A Betancourt

Learn  
more at  
[https://  
pronouns.  
org/what-  
and-why](https://pronouns.org/what-and-why)



**What Are Pronouns? Why Do They Matter?  
— Pronouns.org Resources on Personal  
Pronouns**  
[pronouns.org](https://pronouns.org)

In English, whether we realize it or not, people frequently refer to us using pronouns when speaking about us. Often, when speaking of a singular human in the third person, these pronouns have a gender implied -- such as “he” to refer to a man/boy or “she” to refer to a woman/girl. These associations are not always accurate or helpful.

Often, people make assumptions about the gender of another person based on the person’s appearance or name. These assumptions aren’t always correct, and the act of making an assumption (even if correct) sends a potentially harmful message -- that people have to look a certain way to demonstrate the gender that they are or are not.

Using someone’s correct personal pronouns is a way to respect them and create an inclusive environment, just as using a person’s name can be a way to respect them. Just as it can be offensive or even harassing to make up a nickname for someone and call them that nickname against their will, it can be offensive or harassing to guess at someone’s pronouns and refer to them using those pronouns if that is not how that person wants to be known. Or, worse, actively choosing to ignore the pronouns someone has stated that they go by could imply the oppressive notion that intersex, transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming people do not or should not exist.

Read more: <https://pronouns.org/what-and-why>



# A MONTHLY ADVENTURE IN FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, FUN!

**UUCE COMMUNITY ROOM**

**THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025**  
**11:00 AM TO 1:00 PM**

We're not meeting in April (scheduling conflicts with the last Thursday of the month), BUT, please mark your calendars now: We WILL have our next "Food, Fellowship, Fun" Gathering on Thursday, **May 1 from 11am-1pm!** Rev. Sara and Jeff Jeude invite you to come to church that day and share a lunch, get to know others, send a love note to someone else in church (cards, postcards and stamps provided) and have some fun! Making time to connect with others helps us feel bit less lonely and more filled with hope.

Lunch and snacks will be provided, along with coffee, tea, and water. If you would like to bring something to share, we would welcome that!

We love the prospect of spending some time with you, our church family!  
Jeff and Sara



UUCE's annual **NAME YOUR OWN PRICE**



**SAVE** THE DATE!!  
**SAVE** YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS!!  
**SAVE** THE PLANET BY  
RE-PURPOSING YOUR  
UNWANTED ITEMS!!!

UUCE's Annual "Name Your Own Price" Yardsale is coming Sooner than you think!!  
**Literally!!** (It's scheduled for one week earlier than last year!)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2025**  
FOR THIS YEAR'S SALE!!

(We can take donations almost anytime,  
but let's wait until the weather is nicer, okay?)

Questions? Contact [Jeff emmaus117@gmail.com](mailto:Jeffemmaus117@gmail.com) or 573-340-4677  
Your Yard Sale Co-Chairs Jeff Jeude and CJ Lammers thank you!



## FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT BETH PEPPER

Well, spring is t-r-y-i-n-g to get here, but winter just doesn't seem to want to let go! Our crocuses are up, our daffodils are coming ... and then we get more snow.

We had a chock-a-block March! It started off with our 2025 auction, March into Spring, which was a great success, exceeding our goal! Thank you to **Jeff Jeude** and **Liz True** and **Suzanne Aubrey** and **CJ Lammers** for their outstanding work before during and after the auction! But of course, they couldn't have done it without all the donors and the bidders, so thanks to you too!

Food, Fellowship and Fun continued its winning streak with another great get together, this one Mexican themed. With a vat of warm queso and taco and burrito fixin's galore, we enjoyed each other's company and camaraderie. Yay **Jeff Jeude** and **Rev. Sara** and the many folks who brought something to share - we had quite the fiesta!

March included a celebration of Tom Martin's life. What an incredible man he was! I knew he traveled, but had no idea of the extent! I loved hearing stories of his past from his family, co-workers, and friends. Rev. Sara shared a couple emails from those friends and family, thanking her and UUCE for Tom's memorial service. Thank you to **Rev. Sara** for leading Tom's beautiful, caring, funny, heartwarming ceremony and to **Kay Hansen, Marianne Hunt, Susan Opdycke, Jana Robinson, Jeff Jeude, Anne Ossanna, and Cecily Judd** and all who brought something for the wonderful - and plentiful! - reception afterwards.

Have you noticed how beautiful our campus is these days? If not, take a look! If so, thank **Bronwen Day** and **Betty Massie** for their tireless work! When those daffodils finally bloom, it will be heaven in our own backyard!

And UUCE's March activities wrapped up with a Joyful Resistance Community Party! So many people, both from our congregation and from the greater community showed up to be together, to build connections, release some energy, play games, and enjoy each other's company. Thank you to our Justice Ministry Team of **Barb Acosta, Jana Robinson, Anne Ossanna, Abigail Cossette,**

continued on next page

**Rev. Sara, David Dietrich, DJ Charles “Wolfman” Betancourt, Rev. Mark Worth** and the many, many others who helped make it a FANTASTIC day - and one that I think we all needed.

April kicks off with our annual Stewardship Campaign. Your stellar Stewardship Committee (**Doug Bird, Suzanne Aubrey, Sally Francis, Mac MacDonald, Linda Tarlow, and Linda Uberseder**) will be reaching out to you via snail- or e-mail, asking you to pledge your financial support to this church and its work for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026). We are hoping to raise about 7% more in pledges this year than we did last year. Please take a moment to fill out your pledge cards - the sooner the better! - and give as generously as you can. A lot of work has to go into finalizing the budget by our Fiscal Matters Committee and our Board of Trustees once all the pledges are in, so we appreciate your prompt replies.

I'm looking forward to welcoming **Diane Hubner, Jeff Jeude, Jasper Nowak, and Emily Samuels** as our newest members at our April 13 worship service!

And I'm looking forward to the Prayer Walk from Orono to Augusta over the week of April 22-29. We'll be commuting each day to/from the route (we won't be camping along the route), so let's plan on carpooling. See Rev. Sara's info and the flyer in this NUUS for more info and expect more to come as details are solidified.

Happy April! 💜🌶️







# WE'D LOVE YOU TO COME SING IN UUCE'S CHOIR!

**Choir Practices this month – Sundays, April 6 and 13, at 9am**  
**Choir Sings in Worship on Sunday, April 13!**

Meg O'Dell is our Choir Director again this year! Come join the choir that meets twice a month on Sundays at 9am before worship to practice and then sing one Sunday a month in worship. Everyone, of all ages and abilities, is welcome to be a part of this soul-nourishing singing community! If you have questions, feel free to reach out to Tori Bell, chair of our Music Committee, who also sends out reminders each month about choir practice. You can reach her via email at [toribell14@gmail.com](mailto:toribell14@gmail.com).

# HOW YOU HELP OUR UUCE BY PURCHASING HANNAFORD GROCERY CARDS

Hannaford grocery cards are sold every Sunday at coffee hour. We sell \$50.00, \$100.00 and \$250.00 cards. Buy your card and use it at the cash register just like a credit or debit card. No PINS, no registering, no technology issues, zero stress. Our UUCE earns 3-5% of the amount of the card purchased, depending on whether you pay by cash, check, or credit card. **Now that you can purchase grocery cards using your credit card you do not lose credit card points by participating in the program.** Participation in the grocery card program is a no-brainer for anyone who shops at Hannaford. Please stop at the grocery card table this Sunday, ask any questions you may have, and join the fund-raising fun. Please make a decision TODAY to incorporate Hannaford grocery cards into your weekly shopping routine.



OUR UUCE WILL THANK  
YOU.





# In the UUCE Gardens

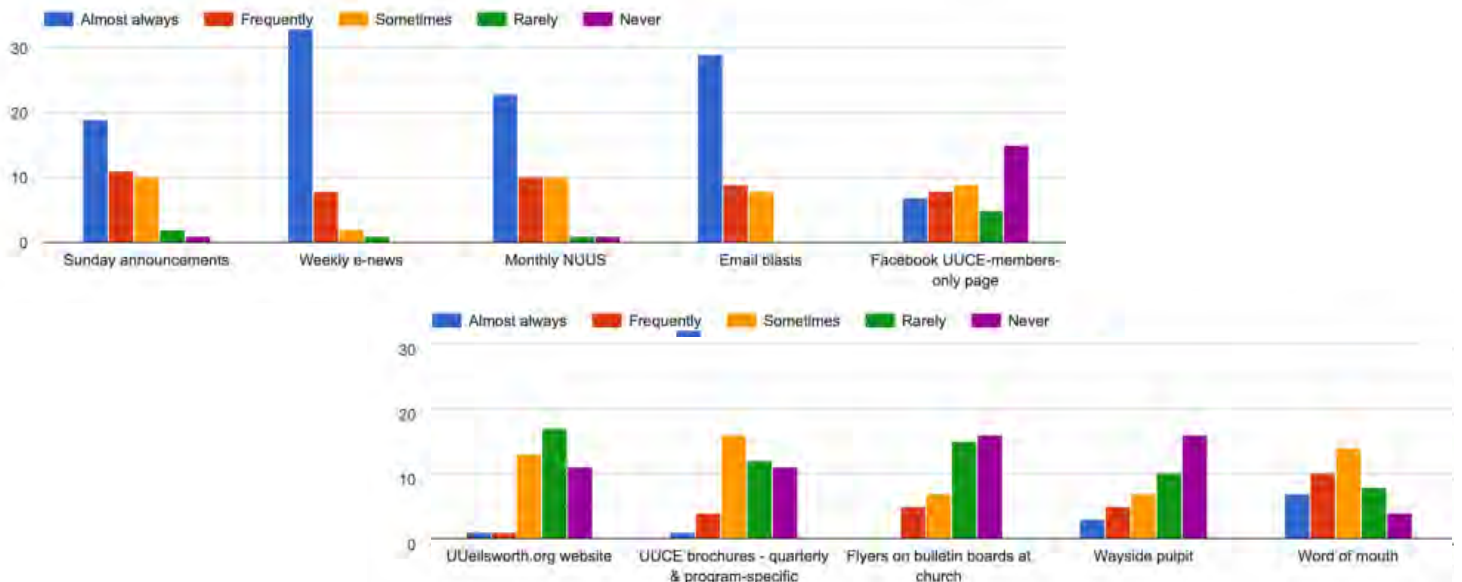




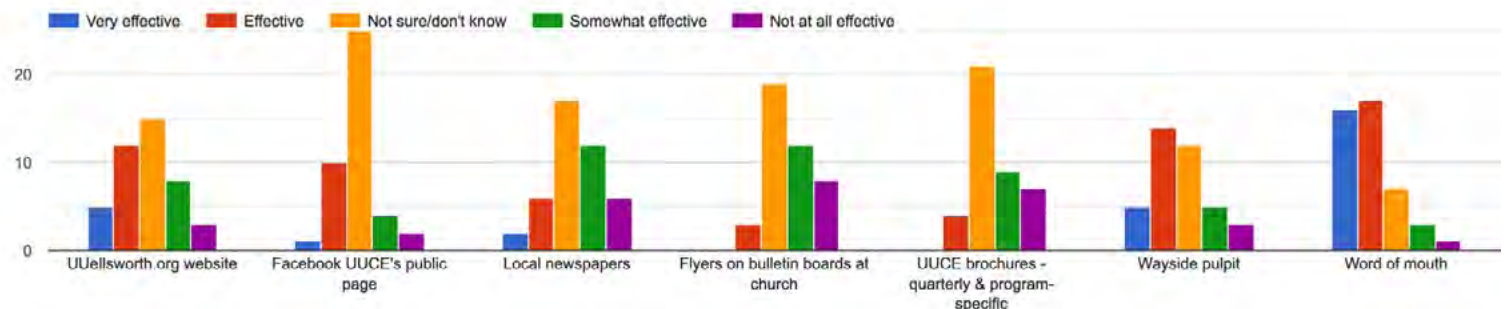
# THE UUCE COMMUNICATION SURVEY RESULTS ARE IN!

Thank you to all that took the survey and for **valuable feedback** on how we can best communicate within or beyond our UUCE congregation.

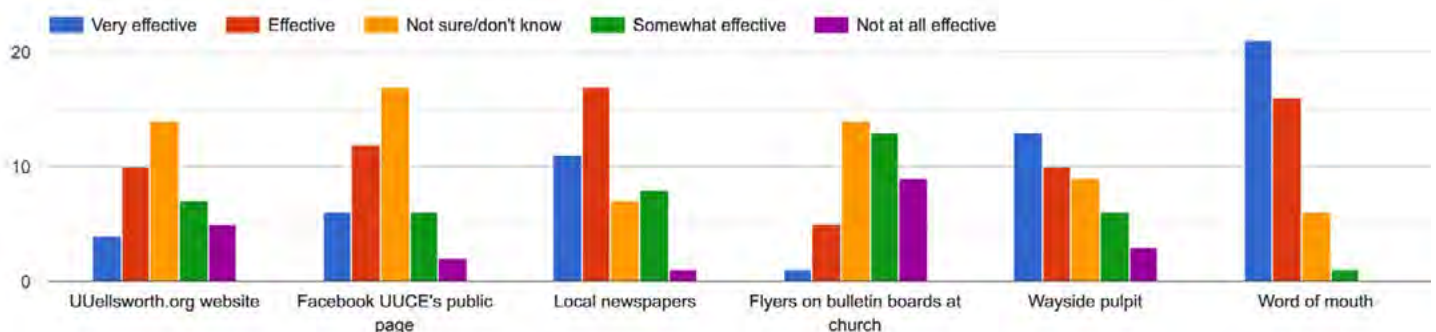
How do you find out about anything UUCE-related? Please rate how often you refer to each item on the list below.



How do you think we best communicate to attract newcomers to our congregation?



What do you think are the most effective ways of communicating to the general public about UUCE public events (i.e. yard sale, speakers, movies, etc.)?



# SOME **VALUABLE FEEDBACK**

We received many helpful suggestions in our UUCE Communication Survey, here a just a few regarding the question: “What other thoughts would you like to add about how we could communicate more effectively to our members, potential members and the public?”

- For the public, definitely newspapers, but also radio announcements of upcoming events: WERU.
- Become involved with Heart of Ellsworth.
- Fewer, more dramatic announcements. Less wordy repetitive information.
- Jeff or Sara mini-videos are effective.
- Explore social media as a way to reach young adults and the general community.
- Grocery store and co-ops bulletin boards for events.
- Our Wayside pulpit could be used more frequently.
- Consider outreach to the College of the Atlantic.
- Hold more community events at the church.
- Flyers around the community and at other churches.
- Put up flyers on community bulletin boards and outreach at events like pride, June tenth, farmers markets etc.
- Have a more active public Facebook group.
- Have things that welcome the community in, like maybe a monthly free meal so folks can see what we are all about.
- Updating the google calendar.
- Point out UUCE bulletin board to visitors.
- Communicate with kindred churches and social groups.
- Use multiple forms of communication.
- Keep growing the Members & Friends email list to distribute the weekly e-news (timely info) more widely.
- Put closings and Zoom-only services on the outgoing phone message and on the web site.
- Have the website frequently updated. If neglected, then unreliable.
- Tracking the access to Facebook and our website and asking new members and others how they heard about us
- Put ads in local newspapers and also on the radio.... 97.7 and WERU too.
- Pride flag flying at the Wayside Pulpit.
- Flyers on our bulletin board at church.
- Word of mouth seems to be the most effective way to attract newcomers.
- Keep updated and accessible brochures about UUCE and events.



*Dr. Wayne H. Smith*  
UUCE Historian

While I was in Taiwan last fall, I visited a friend who works in a research institution in Taipei to talk about my research into the education of Deaf people in Taiwan. We spoke for a while and then she said, “You know, there was a young man from France here just a few weeks ago doing the same kind of research you are.” “What?” I replied, totally surprised that there was someone else out there interested in this topic. She proceeded to give me his contact information and as soon as I got back to Maine, I contacted him.



**Gabriel Maignan-Vásquez**

**EU + UU  
= EUU**

The young man’s name is Gabriel Maignan-Vásquez. He is a 23-year old student at the ENS (École Normale Supérieure) or Paris Normal School which specializes in producing high quality teachers for the schools in France. The university system is different in France, but he’s currently halfway between a master’s degree and a Ph.D. and he has chosen to trace the various pathways through which the various Asian countries established educational programs for the Deaf. Over the course of several Zoom calls, we got to know each other’s research very well, and I saw Gabriel as the logical inheritor of my collection of research and materials on Deaf education in Taiwan. To make a long story short, he invited me to come and spend two weeks with his family just outside of Paris in the town of Vanves.

Knowing that I was going to Paris, out of curiosity I typed “Unitarian Universalist Paris France” into Google and discovered that there was indeed a UU church in Paris, but it only meets once a month, and not while I was going to be there. Nevertheless, I contacted the congregation president Aamer Taufique, who told me about the every-Friday-afternoon “Happy Hour” chat group online and invited me to join. So join I did and I made the acquaintance of Ida van Haren, a Dutch woman who lives in Paris and who I identified as the head of the chat group. Also, there was Peter Jarrett, a Canadian from Toronto who served as last year’s congregation president. Then there was a Danish woman whose camera was aimed at



her kitchen where she was busy making a special dessert while she was chatting with us. We were later joined by a man named Brian from Idaho, a woman from Virginia, a man from Morocco who teaches English in an elementary school, an older French woman who liked to explain French customs like “Poisson d’Avril” (April Fish – we call it April Fool’s Day), and a number of other interesting people.

I soon figured out that this group was hardly limited to just the members of UUFP, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Paris, but was open to all, and it could broadly be described as EUU – European Unitarian Universalists. Before Covid, members of UUFP used to meet in a Paris bar to shmooze over a glass of wine every Friday afternoon from 5-7. After Covid, they had to do it in another way, and this virtual Happy Hour was created in 2020, and the people who join it now come from virtually everywhere. Conversation is done in English. Here’s the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86555744620?pwd=bldKeW50T1BRUldsT05laE15V1FBQT09>

Once I got to France, I contacted Ida van Haren, the leader of the Happy Hour, and we arranged to meet at a little restaurant, La Brise Miche, not far from the Centre Pompidou. I went there with my French host, Gabriel, and Ida was there with a spit-fire friend of hers from New Jersey named Elaine McCarthy. What a hoot! Both women have been living in Paris for about 30+ years, and they gave me a pretty good idea of the history of

UUFP. Apparently, the group began meeting as early as the late 70s. The church has never had a “permanent” home, but rather has had to meet in the afternoons in this church or that meeting hall or whatever they could find. But over 40 years later, the group is still together. They are currently meeting in Paris in what they call La Maison Verte (the Green House), and if you’re moved to do so, you can join them for their services via Zoom. The church website is in English, and the link is: [uuparis.org](http://uuparis.org)

So, Ida, Elaine, Gabriel, and I sat down to a meal of French crêpes, juice, and coffee and we had a wonderful time. Elaine was delightful, telling us all sorts of stories about the church over the years. Gabriel, who had never heard of Unitarian Universalism before, was somewhat intrigued by these two crazy Americans and this Dutch woman all “singing the same song” with lyrics about diversity, equality, inclusion, activism, love, protest, human rights, etc. I told him: “Get used to it. This fall you’ll be teaching at Harvard, a bastion of Unitarianism!”

Here’s a picture that Gabriel took of (L to R) Elaine, me, and Ida by the Stravinsky Fountain.



# CONTACT INFORMATION

<b>Church Office Administrator</b> vacant uucellsworth@gmail.com	<b>Children's Religious Education Coordinator</b> Charles Betancourt uuce.re@gmail.com
<b>Minister</b> Rev. Sara Hayman rev.sara.hayman@gmail.com	

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

<b>President:</b> Beth Pepper to 2025 (207-610-4070)	<b>Vice President:</b> Jill Jeude to 2025
<b>Treasurer:</b> Kate O'Dell to 2026	<b>Secretary:</b> Bob Francis to 2026
<b>Trustee:</b> Tori Bell to 2026	<b>Trustee:</b> Jana Robinson to 2027
<b>Trustee:</b> Doug Bird to 2026	<b>Moderator:</b> Gary Shellehamer

## COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE CHAIRS

<b>Adult Committee on Education:</b> vacant	<b>Membership:</b> Liz True
<b>Aesthetics:</b> Gary Shellehamer	<b>Music:</b> Tori Bell
<b>Auction:</b> Jeff Jeude & Liz True	<b>NUUSletter Editor:</b> Lise Williams
<b>Building &amp; Maintenance/Safety:</b> Susan Opdycke	<b>Pastoral Care Ministry:</b> Kay Hansen
<b>Charitable Giving:</b> Rev. Sara Hayman	<b>Peace and Social Action:</b> vacant
<b>Choir Director:</b> Meg O'Dell	<b>Pianist:</b> Paul Kelly
<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> Charles Betancourt
<b>Congregational Engagement:</b> Hannah Adams	<b>Small Group Ministry:</b> Mary Murray
<b>Cookie Walk:</b> Kate O'Dell	<b>Stewardship:</b> Doug Bird
<b>Eggroll Project Volunteer Coordinator:</b> Mary Murray	<b>Ushers:</b> Beth Pepper
<b>Ferry Beach Coordinator:</b> Anne Ossanna	<b>Technology Coordinator:</b> vacant
<b>Fiscal Matters:</b> Charles Betancourt	<b>Wayside Pulpit:</b> Nancy Guy
<b>Flower Ministry:</b> Linda Tarlow	<b>Website:</b> vacant
<b>Green Sanctuary:</b> Paul Kelley	<b>Worship Arts:</b> Marta Rieman
<b>History/Archives:</b> Wayne Smith	<b>Yard Sale:</b> Jeff Jeude
<b>Hospitality Ministry Coordinator:</b> vacant	<b>Youth Advisor:</b> vacant
<b>Landscaping and Grounds:</b> Bronwen Day	

Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth  
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Ellsworth, ME 04605



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

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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.