



Parish Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick

NOV
2024



OUR MISSION

To be a spiritual community,
To welcome all,
To nurture one another,
To work for justice,
And to care for the earth.

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Minister

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SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

MONTHLY THEME: THE PRACTICE OF REPAIR

November 3rd - How Shall We Fix This? The Spiritual Practice of Repair
Led by Rev Dr. Kharma Amos, Music by Will Bristol

As we gather on the Sunday before election day, we initiate a new monthly theme of reflection--the Practice of Repair. What a timely topic! We all know that some things are wrong in the world and in our own lives. Rather than throwing our hands up in despair, let's reflect on what we can do to intentionally engage in the spiritual practice of repair ... from the interpersonal to the international.

November 10th - What Now? Lessons on Mending
Led by Rev. Dr. Kharma Amos, Music by Will Bristol and the UUCB Choir

On this Sunday following the election, there may still be a lot we don't know. No matter what, however, given the polarized state of our nation, there will be mending to do. Craftspeople will often confirm that mended things can become even stronger at their place of repair than they were before they came apart. Let's consider this wisdom, and simply enjoy the benefit of community for strength and connection.

November 17th - Restorative Justice: A Practice for Repairing Harm
Led by Working for Justice, Music by Will Bristol

UUCB members who have been active in Sacred Ground and the Black Lives Matter sub-group of Working for Justice will lead this service on the topic of Restorative Justice, with special guest Brandon Brown. Restorative justice is a collaborative process that focuses on righting wrongs. It focuses on all parties' harms, needs, and obligations. The ultimate goal is to promote responsible, reparative outcomes for all. Let's dive more deeply into the repair practices of restorative justice.

November 20th - Transgender day of Remembrance

We will gather again on Transgender Day of Remembrance (annually on November 20) to honor the lives of those lost to anti-trans violence. As we honor their lives and mourn the reality of rising hatred directed towards trans, non-binary and gender-expansive people, we will seek hope and encouragement together in community. – See Page 14 for more information.

November 24th - We Re-Pair Things To-Gether: A Celebration of Community
Led by Rev. Dr. Kharma Amos, Music by Will Bristol and the UUCB Choir

We will conclude our reflections on the practice of repair with an intergenerational celebration of community. A ritual of sharing cornbread and cider will be included in this service, as we ponder the possibilities of repair that are made a possibility when we work, live, and love together.

Minister's Message

A Pastoral Letter about these Uncertain Times

Dear Ones,

Rather than my typical sharing of information about our theme for the month of November (i.e. The Practice of Repair), I'd like to take advantage of this communication opportunity to simply write a Pastoral Letter to you. The times we are living in are, in many ways, intense. Years ago (like over 3 decades now), our world was described as a VUCA world (i.e. Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, and Ambiguous). These days, a newer model to describe the world is BANI (i.e. Brittle, Anxious, Nonlinear, and Incomprehensible). Regardless of how you frame it, I'm seriously feeling the accuracy and weightiness of these descriptions of the world.

When we zoom out and survey our planet, we can't miss the escalating realities of war, poverty, oppression, militarization, vast wealth disparities, polarization, climate devastation, humanitarian crises, and the very many ways that we humans have missed the mark. (We see a lot of good things too, I'm simply calling our attention to the worries for the moment.) When we zoom into the US, we are in the midst of a very contentious, super critical election – from the top of the ticket all the way down to local referenda. People all across the political spectrum are feeling some kind of way about what might happen in the United States after election day on November 5th. Zoom in further to our individual daily lives, and we have things small and large that weigh on our hearts and minds, from concerns about our health to whether or not we and our loved ones will have sufficient resources and security to make it through winter. The cumulation and intersection of all of this can leave many of us feeling worried, afraid, and/or overwhelmed. If that applies to you, please know that you are not alone, and these are natural feelings. One reason we are experiencing increased attendance/engagement at UUCB is doubtlessly because our human need for community becomes so clear at times like this, and people crave connections.

On top of these things, another reality of our UUCB community is that we are a growing congregation. Many of you have asked me if I've noticed. The answer is yes. As you'll note in the message from the Board of Trustees, the board is also aware of this and is taking proactive steps to help us discern how we can best



steward our growth. In the meantime, we will feel some of the inevitable pains that accompany growth. More people means less space, and more opportunities for all of us to make room for the other. More things are happening, and so we will all have to make careful choices about where to invest (and guard) our energy. New people are discovering something valuable enough in our community that they want to become a part, and that will change us and expand our gifts.

This is exactly what we are always hoping for! However, even longed-for change can be challenging. All change involves loss, grief, uncertainty (among other things); and in the midst of all of that, we need one another. If you are feeling irritated because things aren't clear (or for another reason), consider turning towards another member of the community and making a heart-connection rather than following the impulse to run and hide. If you have a choice between judgment/criticism and curiosity, curiosity is almost always the better choice. Being aware of how we ourselves are feeling in the midst of change and uncertainty is also an essential practice. Consider, perhaps, how we might give voice to discomfort (when we're aware of it) as a way of staying present and engaging it for what it may have to teach us. And one of my favorite maxims ever is, "Follow Your Disturbance." If you're particularly bothered by something, ask yourself why – what aspect of your past or past experiences may be activated in addition to the context of the current moment? There is almost always something more there to explore. (continued)

Minister's Message

(Continued from p.2)

Friends, especially when anxiety about congregational growth may exacerbate our anxiety about the state of the world, we may need to double-down on reminding ourselves why we are here. We are here “to be a spiritual community, to welcome all, to nurture one another, to work for justice, and to care for the earth.” We are stronger, wiser, and more capable together than we are apart. Especially at communal growth points, it’s really important to name and notice the value of the whole. I once heard a musician say that the biggest lesson they learned in life is that you have to learn to love the sound of the ensemble more than the sound of your own voice. Put differently, you have to learn to love the music of the band more than the sound of your own instrument. Metaphorically, this feels like one of the most essential tasks of a spiritual community, and thus always a worthwhile focus for us. How might you lean into this opportunity in coming months?

Finally, Friends, please vote on November 5th if you have not done so earlier. Our democracy thrives when everyone participates. And, please consider the opportunities that we are offering you at UUCB to build community, generate joy, work for justice, and tend to your own growth and development. This is a pretty phenomenal community, and I am truly honored to have been called as your Minister.

Blessings, Kharma

A Note from the Music Director



Will Bristol

Since I’ve been serving here as the music director, Rev. Dr. Kharma and I carefully select a prayer response each month which might correspond to the worship theme. This is for me an important task as we will sing each song for a month, delving deeper each time. The musical prayer therefore should enable a type of experiential journey.

November’s prayer response is #1037 from the UUA’s Singing the Journey hymnal. The form of this hymn is akin to what the Anglican tradition might call “preces and responses”. The words for this piece come from the late Rev. Robert Eller-Isaacs, a former UU minister; and if you watch this video, *he* can tell you *in his own words* how this prayer intersects with November’s theme of **repair**: https://youtu.be/hWsZZj_6vng?si=fC8EzfTazwCq9u8D

Looking ahead to the activities this month that may or may not intersect with this theme...up to you to decide:

- recorder ensemble** will meet on Sunday, November 3rd;
- a cappella group** will meet on Sunday, November 10th;
- 4th Sunday All-Stars** will meet on Sunday, November 24th.

Looking far ahead now—on Saturday, January 18th from 2-3:30pm, a friend of mine is coming to give a **workshop on drumming**. His presence will provide those attending with more rhythmical vocabulary in an easy-to-learn kind of way which can then be applied at drumming circles. If you find yourself, like me, sometimes at a loss for imagining new rhythms or tones you might create with an African drum, then this would be a good workshop to attend. Donations of \$15 per person will be welcomed for this event at the door. A sign up to the event can be found here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/15YjyRniEbC4pHRnOt4hLwNDXHp76LpShwfmIAv38A6o/prefill>. You can also email me at music-director@uubrunswick.org to sign up.

Happy November—may you all stay strong, healthy and engaged! Best, Will

From the Lifelong Spiritual Formation Director (LSFD)



Toben Cooney-Callnan

Children's Spiritual Formation

Fall Family Mixer

Many thanks to Ren and Stephanie Bernier for hosting a Fall Family mixer for our Children's Spiritual Formation participants and their families. We decorated pumpkins, ate yummy food, roasted marshmallow and played charades by the fire!



Adult Spiritual Formation

Still Time to Learn

In 2024 alone forty-five anti-trans bills were passed in multiple states. These anti-trans bills aim to make it illegal for trans people to use the bathroom that they feel matches their gender identity, seek gender affirming medical care, or play sports on the team that matches their gender identity. Maine recently signed into effect a shield law that protects transgender health care but the governor of our neighboring state, New Hampshire, signed two anti-trans bills this summer. There are now twenty-six states in this country that have anti-trans laws in place. As if that weren't enough, there are currently eighty anti-trans bills being considered at the Federal level. Many of these laws are targeted at trans youth. As Unitarian Universalists, we have an obligation to spread our love far and wide and, right now, our trans and nonbinary youth need us!

This past summer UUCB renewed its commitment to being a Welcoming Congregation. A committee was formed specifically to make sure that UUCB was doing the work to fulfill the new Welcoming Congregation practices. In the work that this committee did, it became clear that UUCB did not have an active LGBTQIA+ Working For Justice focus

group. Work is now being done to meet the WFJ requirements to form an LGBTQIA+ focus group. As we do the work to become a truly welcoming and supportive place for trans individuals to be a part of, we have incredible opportunity to learn together how to be good trans allies.

Many of us grew up in a time before these kinds of conversations around gender identity began. Perhaps some of us want to be supportive but find ourselves with questions that we are unsure of how to ask. For the purpose of learning together specifically about nonbinary identity, I will be offering a close reading of the book *Nonbinary for Beginners* by nonbinary writer Cloud Atlas. This will be a three-part series wherein we will read the book broken down into sections. We will spend the first part of each session reading followed by a discussion on how we feel about what we just read. To make sure that we have enough books for all participants, we ask that people register for this series. The easiest way to register is to visit our UUCB [website, www.uubrunswick.org](http://www.uubrunswick.org), and click the Learning tab and then go to our For Adults page where you will find a post with full information about the series and a link to click for [registration](#).

From the Board of Trustees

Well, so much for those beautiful, warm summer days...granted we did get a little dry at times, but, overall, the weather was delightful! Now we get our summer clothes put away, winter clothes brought out and prepare for whatever nature hands us.

Regarding Safety for our community, please be aware that there is an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) in place at UUCB. It is in a small cabinet to the left of the storeroom and a well-stocked First Aid Kit is mounted next to it.

As many of you are aware, our congregation has been growing in leaps and bounds and we are welcoming many new adults and children to our worship services. This increase in number has made the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall feel a bit crowded. The Board has met with members of several relevant committees to see what we might do to make folks a little more comfortable. We have added another row of chairs to Fellowship Hall and moved a longer bench to the Middle Street side of the building. We are also asking the ushers and greeters to encourage early comers to sit closer to the front of the church and leave the seats in the rear for latecomers.

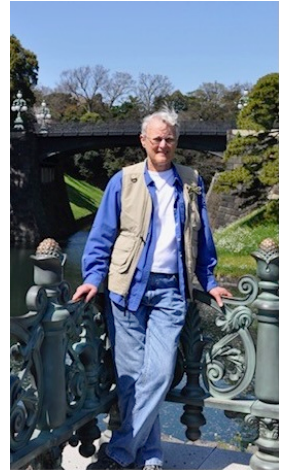
But, no doubt, our congregation will continue to grow and there are only so many chairs we can safely fit into our building for a worship service. We need to prepare ourselves for the future.

We have asked the UUA to provide some guidance as we wrestle with what is really a good problem to have. The Board has a meeting scheduled in November with a member of the UUA as we learn about the group discernment process and embark on a new introspective adventure!

*"In situations where no options seem clear, or stakes feel high and choices feel risky, group **discernment** is a way we can wonder together. Through group discernment, we can sort out what risks might be the faithful ones to take."*(Groot and Sullivan, UUA website)

"Group discernment takes willingness to be changed — a huge challenge for those of us programmed to seek control, yet also a fundamental purpose for a faith-based life seeking alignment with values and mission."(Groot and Sullivan, UUA website)

Catharine (Cuffy) Chase, Member of the Board of Trustees



FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE SEEKING NEW MEMBERS



One very active committee at UUCB is the Membership Committee, also known as MEMCOM. Members of this group welcome people at the Visitor's Table every Sunday, providing information about UUCB including the many programs available and upcoming events. MEMCOM meets on the **first Thursday of each month at 12:30** in the May Sarton room. Some of the events that MEMCOM organizes are You and UU class, annual church picnic, SoUUp's On, Circle Suppers and the New Member Ceremony.

MEMCOM needs some additional members to help with the planning of our events. It's a fun and creative group, always welcoming new ideas. For more information, contact Sarah Fabian, 603-728-8533, farahsabien@gmail.com

Upcoming UUCB Events

THE SANTA PROJECT 2024

The Santa Project is back this Christmas. We were asked to again help The Gathering Place make Christmas a little merrier for its clients, as there is still a great need to help unhoused folks and people still living on the streets.

After speaking with the Associate Director of the organization to find out the best way we can help, gift cards are what she suggested. They have around 100 clients at The Gathering Place. These gift cards will be given out in Christmas cards at their Christmas dinner.



What we need from the elves at UUCB are **Hannaford gift cards** of \$5 or \$10 denomination or cash and checks in any amount made out to **UUCB with "Santa Project"** in the notation and we will get the cards. We were also asked to get gift cards that can only be used for food and prescriptions.

A box/basket will be at the table in the back of the sanctuary from **November 3rd through December 1st, 2024** to put gift cards, checks, or money in. I will be around after church to answer any questions you might have about the Santa Project. In the past we have been very generous in helping make Christmas merrier for others and I am sure we can do the same this year particularly in this time of high homelessness. In advance, thank you.

Santa's chief elf, Sharon Brown

TEEN CENTER

Contact: Cuffy Chase cmc1322@gmail.com



September and October have been very busy months for the Teen Center. They have moved from People Plus to the Coffin School. Now they will serve more kids. The new larger space is right next to Brunswick Junior High.

Many volunteers helped rebuild 2 rooms at the Coffin School with new flooring and paint. It no longer looks like a classroom. Taylor Carter, the director, says that there are expanded opportunities for volunteers and teens. Our Teen Center Committee will continue to provide snacks, meals and funds for holiday gift cards.

The Teen Center expects to serve more New Mainers and students who couldn't easily access the People Plus Building. Public Health and AmeriCorps member and volunteer Eli Diaz is developing an outdoor program including hikes, outdoor games, activities and adventures.

The teens continue to use computers for games and schoolwork. The center is a place to play, eat, relax and find community.

Thank you for supporting us with donations of snacks on the first Sunday of each month!

Upcoming UUCB Events

CIRCLE DINNERS ON THANKSGIVING DAY

Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 28



Would you like to share Thanksgiving dinner with your friends at UUCB? The November Circle Suppers will take place on Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 28. Times and location(s) will be available at the Visitor's table.

Circle Dinners are arranged by the Membership Committee and provide a great opportunity for both long-time and new members to get better acquainted in a comfortable small group setting of 6 to 8 people. The dinner will be "pot-luck" style with the host providing the main course and others bringing appetizers, sides and desserts. Beverages may be provided by both the hosts and guests.

We'll be looking for both hosts and participants. For questions and to sign up to host or attend as a guest, please contact Anne Spencer, amsinbath@gmail.com, 207-443-3275.

Wishing you a very Happy Thanksgiving day!

TASTE & SEE – A SMALL GROUP MINISTRY SAMPLER

Sunday, November 10th

Returning to this church five years ago after serving UU congregations out of state for twenty+ years, I remembered a handful of people I'd known before I left. Wanting to feel like I belonged again, volunteering for tasks related to Sunday services was a good way to fit in. Next, I signed up to be in a Chalice Circle, a form of Small Group Ministry. Attending Circle Suppers, then an adult class led by Toben Cooney-Callnan; all these ways of connecting fed my longing spirit. I am deeply grateful to the people and ministries of UUCB for my renewal.

This congregation has grown in the last few years, which feels like renewal. We wonder if being with others for relational connection and spiritual growth in addition to Sunday services might be important to you. Perhaps you aren't sure.

At the Sunday, November 10th Taste & See, Toben, now Lifelong Spiritual Formation Director, and I are presenting a gathering for all who want to learn about and experience a taste of Small Group Ministry. After a light lunch, we will share some ideas and options about Chalice Circles, Soul Matters, and Wellspring. Because people have different spiritual preferences, these programs focus on spiritual growth in slightly different ways; you can "Taste & See" in short experiences of all three. Scan the QR Code above to register, or email Toben at re-director@uubrunswick.org.

From responses to survey questions about your experiences and preferences, we will prepare for the launch of at least one small group ministry program for adults the week of January 12-18.

Faithfully, Lucy

Taste & See
A Small Group Ministry Sampler

Sunday, Nov 10th
12:30-3:30pm

Scan the QR code to register

Upcoming UUCB Events

MURDER *at the* Pie Auction





SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2
A Comedy Murder Mystery Radio Show
performed by UUCB Actors

Written by Michael Druce



and Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc., Denver, Colorado

Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick
1 Middle Street. Brunswick

Doors open at 6:00pm

-  Heavy hors d'oeuvres, Cider & Desserts served throughout the evening
-  Silent Pie Auction throughout the evening

Performance at 6:30pm

-  Live Pie Auction during the performance
-  Family-Friendly Show

Admission

-  Pay What You Can

Fundraiser for UUCB Sponsored by the Fundraising Steering Committee

Upcoming UUCB Events

Holiday Fair Dates for Your Calendar

VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEETS - Questions? Lisa Durrell, edurr13@aol.com

Sign-up sheets will be put out after church on these Sundays:

Nov. 10, Nov. 17, Nov.24, Dec. 1

LAWN SIGNS –

Questions?: Contact Joanne Allen ljaen543@gmail.com or Jane Thompson jet2flag@gmail.com

- Signs may be picked up after church on Nov. 17 or Nov. 24.
- Put the signs up for 2-3 weeks before the Holiday Fair.
- Return the signs on Sun., Dec. 8 -- or during the Dec.10-13 week at the church office from 10-4
- If you. need help with pick-up or return, please contact a co-chair.

DONATIONS FOR WHITE ELEPHANTS, USED TOOLS, JEWELRY

Tuesday, December 3, 10-4

Wednesday, December 4, 10-4

Thursday, December 5, 10-7

Friday, December 6, 10-12. Note noon cut-off to allow time for pricing/display.

DONATIONS FOR EATS AND TREATS

Non-perishables—during the pre-Fair week (See above.)

Perishables –Friday, December 6

ANNUAL TIPPING PARTY AND WREATH MAKING

Tipping- Saturday, October 23

Wreath Making- Sunday, December 1



HOW CAN I HELP?

Now

- Making crafts, aprons, etc. to sell.
- Donating gently used jewelry (box on membership table)
 - Planning and Publicity

The Week Before the Fair:

- Making baked goods and soups
- Setting up (tables, signs, etc.)
- Displaying and pricing items
- Donating white elephants (clean/good condition) and tools
- Tipping greenery (Nov. 23) and making wreaths (Dec.1)

Day of Fair : December 7, 2024

- Working at the department tables
 - Greeting visitors
 - Packing up the fair

Upcoming UUCB Events

UUCB Holiday Fair – Dec 7 – How to Help

To Build Coffers and Community
You Make it Happen!

MAKE ITEMS (EASY!) FOR THE UUCB CRAFTS TABLE

Look for a basket of instructions for simple knitting and sewing projects (with samples) in the May Sarton Room in November. If you have a craft idea but aren't sure if it would be right for our table, please don't hesitate to contact Betsy Williams (bwilliams120@gmail.com) or Rebecca Waddle (rebecca.waddleis@gmail.com).

Makin' Wreaths! Again?

ANNUAL TIPPING PARTY AND WREATH MAKING

Tippling - Saturday, November 23

Wreath Making - Sunday, December 1



This year for the 18th year in a row, Erik and Robin Hansen are donating heaps and piles of fir tips for us to make wreaths—for the church and to sell at the Holiday Fair. Only problem is: some people have to cut the fir tips from their Christmas tree lot, someone has to transport and store the bundles of tips, someone has to transport them to church, and a lot of somebodies have to actually make the tips into beautiful wreaths after church the Sunday before the Holiday Fair. Then someone has to actually display them on December 7 in the sanctuary and somebodies have to be there to sell them—in 2 hours shifts. Join in as part of a team, have fun, and get it done to make \$\$ for the church.

We'll have signup sheets for all these events starting November 3rd. We need a group of 10 people to cut and bundle fir tips and then to enjoy a chili, cornbread, and cider supper together and a lot of people to make the wreaths December 1. Don't know how? Sign up anyhow. We'll teach you how and feed you pizza afterward.

Look over the signup sheets the first Sunday in November and sign up for what appeals to you.

I hope you will join us on the team! —Robin H

THE 'EATS AND TREATS AND MORE' TABLE

MAKE-AN-APRON

Calling all Servers!! Help needed to make homemade aprons, both children's and adults, for the Holiday Fair. A great success last year. For further information contact Donna Tompkins at donnatompkins@comcast.net or call 207-798-4638

SOUP-IN-A-JAR

Back by popular demand. Stay tuned for more information on how you can contribute to "filling-the-jars!"

EATS AND TREATS

The Eats and Treats table needs your brownies, your coffee cakes, your fudge, and, and...! Pick up a list of ideas when you sign up on November 10, 17, or 24. Donations may be dropped off Friday, December 6 between 12:00-7:00pm or Saturday, December 7 between 8:00-9:00am. For more information contact Penny Elwell at pennelwell@yohoo.com; Gretchen Kamilewicz at gkamilewicz@gmail.com; Leigh Peranteau at leigh763@yahoo.com or Donna Tompkins at donnatompkins@comcast.net.

Concerts for a Cause

The mission of **Concerts for a Cause** is to hold a series of concerts to raise money for the church and local charities while sharing a variety of quality music with the Brunswick area community. The 2024-25 season's charities will be [Brunswick Area Teen Center](#) and [Maine Family Planning](#). See the entire lineup of concerts and more details about each performer at <https://uubrunswick.org/concerts>.

Novel Jazz Septet Celebrates Ellington and Strayhorn

SATURDAY, November 23 at 7:30 PM

UUCB Concerts for a Cause presents the Novel Jazz Septet at UUCB on Saturday, Nov. 23 at 7:30 p.m. to raise money for **the Brunswick Area Teen Center and Maine Family Planning**. The concert will feature the music of the iconic Duke Ellington and his equally iconic musical collaborator, Billy Strayhorn who, together wrote some 3,000 compositions over their musical careers.

Novel Jazz Septet, one of Maine's premiere jazz groups, is now in their 20th year of keeping the musical legacy of Duke Ellington and Billy Strayhorn alive and swinging. The band embarked on a project to go through the massive archive of compositions by Ellington and Strayhorn, transcribe some lesser-known gems for the band and reinterpret them with a 21st century sound. This has resulted in 3 CDs and a special PBS interview about the project. In addition, several two-hour programs dedicated to Novel Jazz have been broadcast on Maine Public Radio's jazz show, "Jazz Tonight" over the years.

Novel Jazz will perform standard tunes from the Ellington/Strayhorn repertoire plus more compositions that they have recently unearthed from original recordings at the Ellington Archives of the Smithsonian Museum of American History as well as the Strayhorn Collection at the Library of Congress, both in Washington D.C.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and \$10 for students/children and will be available at the church office, Gulf of Maine Books, or online at <https://ticketstripe.com/noveljazz7>.



Working for Justice

NOVEMBER'S CHARITY WITH SOUL: UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SERVICE COMMITTEE



Contact: Stephen Wood swood88@outlook.com

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is a nonsectarian organization that advances human rights and social justice in the United States and around the world, envisioning a world free from oppression and injustice, where all can realize their full human rights. It originated 70 years ago to help people escape Nazi persecution.



Through a combination of advocacy, education, and partnerships with grassroots organizations, UUSC promotes **economic rights**, advances **environmental justice**, defends **civil liberties**, and preserves the rights of people in times of **humanitarian crisis**.

They also engage communities around the world by teaming up with the [UU College of Social Justice](#), which introduces participants to the work of domestic and overseas partners who are often on the front lines of addressing social justice issues.

UUSC's efforts are built on the conviction that all people are entitled to basic human rights, which transcend divisions of class, race, nationality, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, and gender.

UUCB has a long history of supporting UUSC, and we encourage every member's support by:

- Becoming a [UUSC volunteer](#)
- Participating in the annual holiday [Guest at Your Table](#) program
- Attending special UUSC events at the church
- Learning more about UUSC by visiting www.uusc.org
- UUSC is financially independent from the Unitarian Universalist Association and the federal government. Member contributions make up about 60% of its annual budget.

WORKING FOR JUSTICE RETREAT

Upcoming retreat:

Reinvigorating (Y)Our Relationship to Social Justice
Sunday, November 10, 11:30-3:30 PM



The Working for Justice Steering Group (WFJSG) will be gathering for a retreat on Sunday November 10 from 11:30 am till approximately 3:30 pm. During this time together, there will be space for personal and group exploration, a review of the group's history, and a free exchange of ideas for the future of this important work.

The retreat is for current and potential members. Anyone with a strong interest in the work of this group is welcome to participate. Please bring your lunch. Beverages will be provided as well as a Potluck dessert (volunteers welcome).

Please contact Jill Scherer jill.e.scherer@gmail.com or Faith Barnes faithb.56@gmail.com by November 7 if you plan to attend.

Working for Justice

IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

Contact: Faith Barnes faithb.56@gmail.com



**MidCoast
New Mainers
Group**

Mid Coast New Mainers Group

Mid Coast New Mainers Group has filled its need for job coaches through the end of this year. With stores like Walmart stocking up for holiday shoppers, many new Mainers who have recently gotten their work permits are employed there. Thank you to all who have

volunteered to help asylum seekers navigate the US employment market!

We continue to need drivers to assist with transporting asylum seekers to English classes, driving lessons, and medical appointments. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities with MCNMG, or know someone who is, please go to their website <https://mcnmg.org> and complete the volunteer application at the bottom of the first page.

Midcoast Literacy

Midcoast Literacy hosts a Conversation Cafe to assist new Mainers with their conversation skills. The Cafes are held at the Welcome Center on Brunswick Landing in the back of the Parks and Recreation Center **every third Monday of the month from 5:30pm to 6:45pm**. The next Cafe is scheduled for November 17. Volunteers should contact Jen Burgess at admin@midcoastlit.org to sign up. New Mainers just drop in for informal English chat.

Clothing Closet

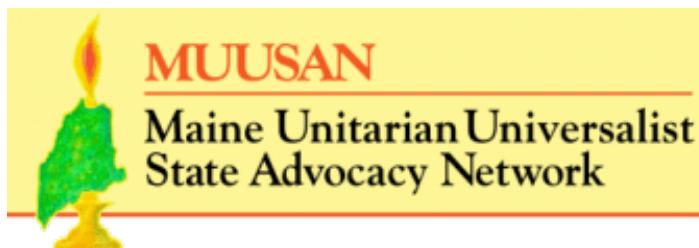
The Little Sparrows Clothing Closet, located at The Nazarene Church at 94 McKeen Street opened in September. Little Sparrows tentative hours are listed below:

- Monday -12:30pm to 5:30pm for sorting and processing
- Tuesday - 8:30am-1:30pm for sorting and restocking
- Tuesday - 9:00am-1:00pm for patrons and donations
- Wednesday -12:30pm to 5:30pm for sorting and restocking
- Wednesday - 1:00pm-5:00pm for patrons and donations

If you are interested in volunteering at the clothing closet or donating clothing, please contact Katya Rogers at (207) 509-4236 or littlesparrowsclothingcloset@gmail.com

MUUSAN

contact Steve Eagles (seagles4@gmail.com)



MUUSAN

**Maine Unitarian Universalist
State Advocacy Network**

Save the Date: Sunday, December 8th 1:30pm-4:00, Hybrid Network Meeting

Be the Change! Help us forge the path ahead at this 132nd legislation kick-off event. If you are new to us and are interested in learning more about MUUSAN or being on our legislative list, please contact Steve Eagles (seagles4@gmail.com) or Betsy Williams (bwilliams120@gmail.com).

Upcoming UUCB Community Events

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

This 26th International Transgender Day of Remembrance memorializes those who have lost their lives due to transphobia and violence. The first memorial was a candlelight vigil held in Boston in November 1999 to honor Rita Hester, murdered in 1998. Since then, annual memorials have been observed around the world around November 20. People of all traditions are welcome to this inclusive community memorial. Join organizers from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Brunswick, First Universalist Church of Yarmouth, Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church of Portland, the Sexuality, Women, and Gender Center from Bowdoin College, and the Brunswick Pride Committee in a service to honor the lives of those lost in this past year.

Transgender Day of Remembrance

Wednesday, Nov. 20th 6:30-8:00pm

UU Church of Brunswick | Middle St

Honoring and remembering the trans and gender expansive
people lost to transphobia and violence over this past year



This community event is open to all and sponsored by:



Unitarian Universalist
Church of Brunswick Maine



FIRST UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH OF YARMOUTH



SWAG
SEXUALITY, WOMEN,
AND GENDER CENTER



ALLEN AVENUE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH



The Brunswick Area Interfaith Council invites you to

RAISE OUR VOICES COMMUNITY SING

for

LOVE

PEACE

JUSTICE

Together



Sunday, Nov. 3rd @ 2 pm

**At the Gazebo, Brunswick Mall
RAIN OR SHINE**

**Come together to connect
during these challenging times.**

**A variety of inspiring songs will be taught and led by
local song leaders. Bring a chair (if needed),
and bring a friend!**

**FREE EVENT
ALL ARE WELCOME**

Questions? Email
brunswickareainterfaith@gmail.com

UUCB Art Gallery

NOVEMBER ART SHOW: UUCB ARTISTS AND FRIENDS EXHIBIT

FROM THE ART GALLERY COMMITTEE

Please take time to enjoy artwork by church members and friends. The November exhibit includes photographs, paintings, drawings and more.

We have a lot of talented people at UUCB and they see the world in exciting and varied ways. Take in the beauty, social commentary, and humor in this show.

Thank you to all of the artists sharing your work with us.

Images below: Artwork by Steve Black



The Parish Messenger Deadline for December issue is Saturday, November 23.
Please send your content to: parish-messenger-editor@uubrunswick.org.