



Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Worship Invitation January 8, 2022



January 8: "Experiencing Forgiveness" via Zoom at 10:30 am.

In small groups, we'll explore our own experiences of forgiving and being forgiven. We'll focus especially on how we recognize when we have been forgiven and how we show forgiveness to others.

Susan Borg is the choir director at MUUF. For this service, she draws on many years of teaching experience including all ages from pre-school to adults.

Please join us at **10:30 am** using the zoom link below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96686220659>

Meeting ID: 966 8622 0659

Telephone: Dial by your location
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

2022 Board Elects Officers

The Board held our first meeting on Wednesday, January 5th. As one of the first orders of business, the following officers were elected:

President: Mark (Zig) Ziarnik

Vice President: Michael Mason

Secretary: Diane Morrison

Treasurer: David Bilski



I want to thank all of my Board colleagues for their willingness to devote their time and talents toward doing this important job, and I also want to thank all of the members of our Fellowship for your votes of confidence when you elected us to the Board in December.

The Board will be holding a retreat this Saturday, January 8th, with the aims of creating our Board's covenant and looking ahead to the coming year. I look forward to having more to share with you in the coming weeks.

Take care, Zig

Religious Exploration



Our next Spirit Connect Zoom session for children will be this **Sunday, January 9, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m.** The topic will be *Affirmations*. Join Carney McRae for a story and activity. To receive the zoom link contact Carney at re@uumidcoast.org.

Bright blessings,
Carney

Dear MUUF,

My family welcomed the new year with this bundle of joy! Archer Trumbo, born January 1. What a miracle birth is! An everyday miracle of which we are part.

Our fellowship begins the year with a focus on forgiveness. That's another form of miracle, in a way. That we can experience hurt and move past it, finding the resilience to begin again.

Forgiveness is about reordering our priorities, putting openness and understanding above anger and resentment. It often involves letting go of expectations. Being willing to be surprised by something new.

I wonder what new things this fellowship will bring into being in this new year?

We'll be meeting for worship over Zoom for the rest of the month. I know that's disappointing, and also probably wise. I appreciate your board for making decisions with the best interest of all in mind. Your worship associates team will continue their stellar service in making our Sundays accessible and worthwhile. Thank you, team!

I've mentioned wanting to start a weekly drop-in session for conversation and spiritual deepening. Let's try that next Wednesday, January 19, from 12-1 p.m. Look for the Zoom link in next week's newsletter. Drop me an email if the timing isn't convenient. We'll try to make this work for all.

We also plan to reschedule the New Year's hike that was postponed. Stay tuned for a new date!

I hope you take time this month to appreciate the everyday miracles which abound: the sparkle of sunlight on snow and ice; the companionship of a loved one; quiet time with a good book; our human ability to begin, again, in love.

Warmly,
Bettina



Bettina & Archer

Social Justice

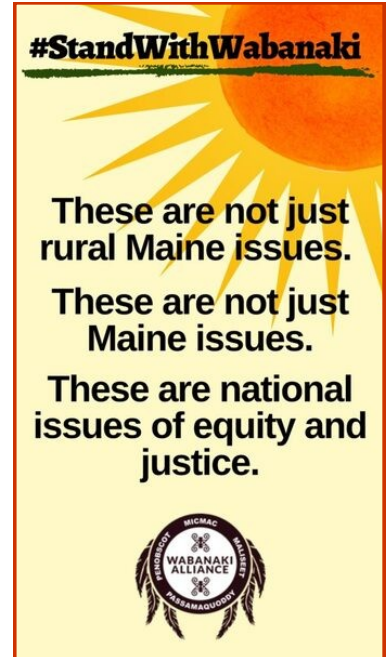
Stand with Wabanaki

As Unitarian Universalists, we acknowledge that the land we now call Maine -- the land on which our churches are built -- is the ancestral land of the Wabanaki Tribes. But land acknowledgements must be more than mere ritual acts. As UU's we are called to work actively on de-colonizing our institutions, to examine the painful history of tribal-state relations in Maine, and to commit ourselves to become anti-racists and allies to the tribes.

MUUSAN Supports LD 1626 - Tribal Sovereignty in the Maine Legislature

A bill is now pending before the Legislature that would recognize and restore to Maine's tribes the same rights, powers, and status of other federally recognized Indian tribes. Our UU commitment to affirming and promoting the inherent worth and dignity of all people and justice, equity, and compassion in human relations, calls us to advocate for enactment of this legislation.

Please go to www.muusan.org and click on the yellow link for more information on the bill, and how to contact your legislators. Every letter and email count!



Anti-racism Vigil: Every Monday 12:00 - 12:30 pm at the Newcastle Veterans Memorial Park. Check [PUAR's](#) Facebook page for updates.

Anti Racism Book Group



More book discussions in Jan and Feb, both on Wednesday evenings at 5:30pm (Interested in a late Friday morning option, at 10 or 10:30? Message me if you definitely want that, and I'll see what I can arrange!)

Leigh Anne at paperandshells@gmail.com

Jan. 26 - Whistling Vivaldi

This has been a campus-wide read at some universities in past years. It's a social scientist's look at how stereotypes impact us all more than we realize -- and just a few ways we can tackle them.

Feb. 23 - The Deepest Well

This pairs nicely with Whistling Vivaldi. I think the implications for stereotypes, stress, and health are interconnected, and will be useful to weave together. Burke Harris also provides a useful model as someone who combines on-the-ground work with research, followed by public health implications, and finally working as CA's surgeon general. She offers many lenses and useful examples of how to make an impact, working in the trenches as well as leading.

**** Please email all newsletter articles and website information to:
news@uumidcoast.org

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