



Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Worship Invitation January 29, 2022



January 30: Speaker - Rashi Nessen, MUUF member and retired educator

We've been working hard to re-create a robust Fellowship over the past two years. Let's take time to appreciate all that we have done and to commit ourselves to restoring the relationships that have been damaged along the way.

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)

Message from the Minister



Bettina Lehovec

Dear Friends,

I hope you are all tucked up, safe and warm, for the winter storm today! How fortunate that our service tomorrow was already scheduled for Zoom. That will make things easy for all of us. Susan Borg and Rashi Nessen will be leading a continued exploration of the January theme: Forgiveness.

Our Caring Team is reorganizing for the coming year. Would you like to be part? This important ministry provides care for our members and friends in the form of friendly visits, phone calls, cards, transportation, food, and more. Please contact Sandy Barth or myself for more information.

The Minister's Open Door sessions got underway on Zoom this month. We've had some lively conversation and camaraderie. You are welcome to drop in at noon any Wednesday. The Zoom link is now recurring, so it should be the same each week. Apologies to those who may have followed the dead link in last week's newsletter.

Minister's Open Door

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83600369112?pwd=Z0JlZDQ3Z1BLeVpQbUhIRU5tbXEwZz09>

Meeting ID: 836 0036 9112

Passcode: 110734

I look forward to continued conversation and getting to know each one of you in different ways. Please reach out if you'd like to visit.

Warmly,

Bettina

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Religious Exploration

Racial Justice – Opening the Doors of Our Minds – A zoom discussion for youth & adults

Our theme for February is Opening Doors. On Sunday, February 27, worship will focus on white supremacy. To deepen your experience with this worship service, you are invited to attend a zoom discussion on **Wednesday, February 23, 6:30 p.m.** Carney McRae, Director of Religious Exploration, will lead a discussion on insights you have gathered based on reading/watching select material. Look at the [Choice Board](#) – this is populated with suggestions of items to read or watch – most are young adult materials. If you have not read any young adult literature, you are in for a treat. They are usually a quick read, and are insightful and delve deep into the issues being presented. Choose 1, 2 or more items to examine, and follow the protocol listed below the choice board. Then you'll be ready for our zoom discussion.



Why register? This will help Carney better prepare – if there are lots of people zooming in, we can do 1 or 2 break out rooms. You also will get a reminder the day before with the zoom link just in case you misplaced it.

Most books you should be able to get from your local library or through interlibrary loan. Carney has some books in the UURockland Library that you can borrow. So don't delay, register here, and choose some links on [the Racial Justice Choice Board](#) to examine, and enjoy reading a couple of young adult novels.

Zoom Registration:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vceqvqTMtGNR91RbgUXlySghl6Ce7vMA>

Caring Committee



Sandy Barth

The Care Committee is reorganizing for 2022 and will have an initial meeting with Rev. Bettina in early February. Please let co-chair Sandy Barth know if you are interested in being added to this committee (sbarth1942@gmail.com). Former co-chair Joan Whitmire is stepping back but is willing to continue to hold the end of life forms in a locked file cabinet in her home. Sandy is willing to continue as co-chair but definitely would like someone to step up to that position.

In the past, the Committee has provided various services such as rides, occasional meals, check-in phone calls, and holiday treats. For questions or notification of the Zoom connection (but not necessarily commitment) contact Sandy.

PLEASE JOIN US!

SNACKS FOR STUDENTS DRIVE

January 17 - February 14, 2022

Help us at Healthy Lincoln County distribute snacks to local schools through our school-based pantry support.



What's needed:

Whole grain granola bars, yogurt, cheese sticks, fruit snacks, pretzels, popcorn, pudding, applesauce and other fruit/vegetable pouches, raisins, whole wheat crackers, trail mix, dried fruit, and cereal.

Two ways to donate:

1) Drop off at:

Healthy Lincoln County
281 Main Street in Damariscotta

2) Contact Lee Emmons

lemmons@healthylincolncounty.org



Looking for a quick way to support the community and help food insecurity? Well it is easy! Pick up some extra snacks while at the grocery store and donate them to Snacks for Student food drive. You can drop them off directly to the program or collect them and Tiffany will get them from you! We can make a large donation at one time or by smaller separate donations. Either way we are contributing to our community . All of the snacks are being donated to Healthy Lincoln County's five school-based pantries. Thank you ahead of time for your support.



Anti Racism Book Group

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.

For more information contact Leigh Anne at paperandshells@gmail.com

Social Justice

I am Midcoast UU Fellowship's Congregational Legislative Liaison to MUUSAN, the Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network. This dedicated group of Maine UU's works to support the passage of Maine legislation that reflects our UU principles. There



are four Issue Groups: Democracy in Action; Health Care; Climate Change; and Racial, Native, and Immigrant Justice. MUUSAN's new Administrative person is Reba Richardson. Our congregation is well represented! I am a steering committee member and a member of the Racial, Native and Immigrant Justice group, Jill Linzee is the Climate Change chair, Melissa Dearborn is a member of Climate Change and completed an awesome testimony on Zoom this week, and Sandy Barth is a member of Racial, Native and Immigrant Justice. Julia Fitz-Randolph is the former co-chair of MUUSAN.

During this winter-spring Legislative session, MUUSAN is tracking and supporting over 30 bills making their way through the legislative process. All four Issue Groups strongly endorse LD 1626, which supports Wabanaki sovereignty.

My job as the Congregational Legislative Liaison is to inform our congregation about ways that we can support the passage of legislation that reflects our UU principles. The most important way that we can support legislation is to contact our legislators (email, phone, mail) to let them know that we, their constituents, hope they will support specific bills. As you may know, there are key moments in the legislative process when it is very strategic for legislators to hear from their constituents. Sometimes these moments come very quickly and need an immediate response. So I will continue to post in the Mini-Newsletter weekly throughout the Legislative Session.

If you missed our letter writing session last Saturday to help you all in writing your letters to your legislators to help pass LD 1626, the Bill for Wabanaki Sovereignty. Here is another opportunity for you to get help writing your letters:

THE UU Augusta SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE is inviting everyone to a letter-writing event Sunday, January 30th, from 2:00-3:30 in the church [Zoom Room](#). Everyone is invited - from all UU congregations and communities! We will have information about the bill and how to easily write your own letters to legislators. Please join us for a fun & important event - we would love for you to attend!

For questions, please contact me, Mary Finn 781 866 3317



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

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

Worship Invitation Plus Weekly Newsletter Editor: Jennifer Ober