



## Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

### Worship Invitation March 12, 2022



**March 12** - "Sharing Resilience" led by Rashi Nessen and Susan Borg

We'll be reading from "Shelter in This Place - Meditations on 2020" edited by Meg Riley and published in 2021 by the UUA. Then we'll break into groups to share our own experiences of resilience, and the obstacles to resilience, that we've had during these past two years. We can celebrate our last zoom service by honoring what we have learned during this tough time.

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)

**March 20** - Reimagining RE: There's a movement in UU faith formation to take RE out of Sunday mornings and into the rest of the week. The pandemic has accelerated this paradigm shift. Join us as we explore new ideas for reaching families, children, and youth.

Led by Bettina Lehovec and Carney McRae, with a cameo appearance by Rev. Marty Pelham of First Universalist Church of Rockland. **We will be in person at the Edgecomb Town Hall!** Happy Spring!

**March 27** - Join W.A Tiffany Vencile as we celebrate Spring Equinox with reflection, ritual and songs. More information to follow.

## **President's Message**

Dear members and friends,

On Sunday, March 20th we will be gathering at the Edgecomb Town Hall to celebrate the first day of spring and being together again. Bettina will be leading the service. Please join us in person if you can, or via Zoom if you cannot.

Following the service we will have an important congregational discussion regarding the future of our Fellowship. All members and friends are welcome. As most of you know, Bettina's current contract with us runs through July 31st. We need to decide what comes after that, and we want to know what you think.

The Minister Search Team and the Board have reached a consensus on the job description for our next minister who will hopefully start with us on August 1st. Please follow the link below to take a look at it. You will see that it comprises the work of our traditional half-time minister, plus the important additional "Interim Minister" scope that you so clearly asked for in our 2021 Annual Survey and at our 2021 Annual Meeting.

[Link to Job Description](#)

If you have not already done so, please also read the two-page letter from the Board that was included in last week's weekly newsletter. The letter provides a succinct summary of where we currently stand as a Fellowship, and it sets the stage for our discussion on the 20th regarding our next minister.

[Link to the Board Letter](#)

These are exciting and promising times! So much is going on, and so many people are involved. If you are one of them, thank you for enriching our lives and bringing us joy. We still have plenty of room for more people to get involved in meaningful and fun ways. I am really looking forward to seeing you all on the 20th and hearing what you think.

Take care,

Mark (Zig) Ziarnik  
President

## Religious Exploration



# Racial Justice Zoom Discussion

Wednesday, March 23  
6:30-8:00 p.m.

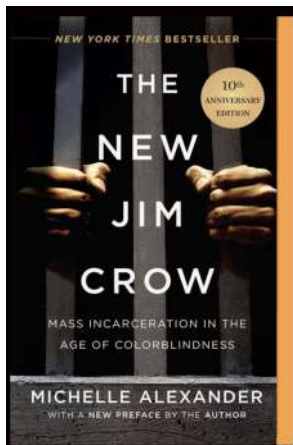
You choose what you want to read or watch. We provide a choice board with some ideas. And then we discuss our learnings, insights and questions. We did this last month, and found this format rewarding, so we are doing it again. Join others from Midcoast UU Fellowship and UU Rockland, and let's explore together. Hosted by Carney McRae, Director of Religious Exploration.

Register in advance for this meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZlsdeGvrj4vGNeG78ZZkJ\\_YAptkWhU0m3S5](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZlsdeGvrj4vGNeG78ZZkJ_YAptkWhU0m3S5)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting and a link to the choice board.

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Our next zoom book discussion, facilitated by Mary Finn, will be *The New Jim Crow: "Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness."* There will be two discussion dates: Monday, March 28, 6 p.m. for the first 3 chapters of the book; and Monday, April 25, 6 p.m. for the final 3 chapters of the book.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZcldu2pqD0iGteGeOgzla8PGIgfWRO7bdzf>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



## Cakes for the Queen of Heaven: In Ancient Times

A five-session religious exploration program in feminist theology\*

Presented on Zoom, starting March 30, 6:30 p.m.

*"Women have no past, no history, no religion." Simone de Beauvoir, 1949*

"Cakes for the Queen of Heaven: In Ancient Times" seeks to reclaim women's past, history, and religion. It invites participants to explore the religious myths and symbols of the ancient world, where female images and experiences were central, and to examine the psychological and social importance of reclaiming our female religious heritage. It explores the provocative question: How might our world be different if the Divine was seen as female?

Among other topics, participants will honor the female form, study mother/daughter relationships, and look at women's power. This multi-sensorial learning experience will include story-telling and poetry, small group discussions (in breakout rooms), goddess images, art, music, and guided meditations.

Hosted by our Fellowship with guide Rev. Mary Gelfand, UU, Interfaith Minister and Wiccan Priestess. The congregations of UU Rockland and UU Kennebunk are invited to participate. Suggested donation of \$20; limited to 20 participants. For all genders and ages 16 and older. Registration required by March 25<sup>th</sup>. Intrigued?! – get full details, including registration link here: [Cakes for the Queen of Heaven](#).

\* *Theology* is from the Greek "Thea," meaning goddess.

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## Diaper Drive

It's another five Wednesday month, when instead of hosting the community supper, we support local families by donating diapers and menstrual supplies to the diaper bank! Diapers and menstrual supplies are expensive, and not every family can afford these necessities. Let's show our support for our neighbors by helping to ease this worry. The tote is on the porch at Damariscotta Dental to put your donations in. Thank you!



-Molly Davis

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## Projector needed for March 20 Worship



Does anyone have a projector (or can borrow one) that works with a laptop so we can project a couple of videos during worship at the Edgecomb Town Hall?

Please contact Carney McRae, [re@uumidcoast.org](mailto:re@uumidcoast.org) and Rev. Bettina, [minister@uumidcoast.org](mailto:minister@uumidcoast.org).

## Social Justice



### **MUUF FAITH IN ACTION WITH MUUSAN**

By Mary Finn Congregational Legislative Liaison

Week of March 13, 2022

Wabanaki Alliance Legislative Lobby Day on March 9 was a great success with 7 MUUSAN reps joining over 100 people lobbying legislators for support of the Wabanaki Bills, LD 1626, LD 906, LD 585

Climate Action Bill advocacy needed this week from Jill Linzee

#### **1) Please contact your state legislators and Governor Mills ASAP about the following:**

**MUUSAN opposes the new (surprise) bill, LD 1959 – An Act to Ensure Transmission and Distribution Utility Accountability.**

**Why do we oppose it?** [This important article](#) by Gordon Weil (Maine's first Public Advocate) gives a very important analysis of why this is a bad bill. Senator Rick Bennett called this bill a "sham."

For the past 3 years MUUSAN has been a strong advocate of replacing Maine's investor-owned utilities (CMP & Versant) with a Consumer-Owned Utility (COU). We believe this is one of the most important climate change actions our state can take. The bill to create a COU PASSED the state legislature in 2021, and was then vetoed by Governor Mills. Since then MUUSAN members have been active in the Our Power Coalition to collect signatures for a Consumer-Owned Utility referendum to go on the November 2023 ballot.

LD 1959 – creates so many obstacles to creating a Consumer-Owned Utility for Maine that it would be virtually impossible. If that's not bad enough, LD 1959 would also give the current – or any future – governor the power to kill a statewide COU.

If any members of your congregations would like more information – from other excellent sources – about this bill and why we oppose it, I am happy to send them more information, and they can email me directly – [jlinzee@comcast.net](mailto:jlinzee@comcast.net). They can also read the testimony against the bill – which is public information. [MUUSAN testimony is on [our website](#).]



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