



Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Mini-Newsletter November 13, 2021



Upcoming Services

November 14: Reverend Charles Stephens at Edgecomb Town Hall at **10:30 am** (*masks required*)

" Anger, Is it Hardwired in Human Nature?" Anger, is it good or bad, does it show weakness or power? Our world and our nation seem at the present time to be filled with anger. And we in our personal lives wrestle with feelings of anger. Is it possible to practice non-anger in our personal and communal lives? Our choir will be singing "Within Our Darkest Night."

If you are unable to attend or are unvaccinated, 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)

Immediately following the service we will be holding a Special Meeting of the Fellowship to vote on a motion to hire Bettina Lehovc for the position of Half-Time Contract Minister. We will need to meet quorum requirements, so please plan to attend. **We will offer Zoom participation.** Friends are welcome to attend the meeting, but only active members will be eligible for the formal vote. (*more information to follow*)

November 21: What is anger for? - Edgecomb Town Hall at **10:30 am**. Susan Borg will lead us in a series of guided explorations to help us discover how Skillful Anger can work in our Fellowship and in our own lives.

Special Meeting – Sunday, November 14, 2021
to Vote on Hiring Bettina Lehovec as a Contract Minister

Article XII of our fellowship's bylaws specifies that a vote to hire or call a minister must be approved by four-fifths (4/5) majority of members present at any meeting called for that purpose. This requirement applies to contract ministers.



The Ministerial Search Committee and the Board of Trustees are calling a Special Meeting of the Fellowship to be held immediately following the worship service on Sunday, November 14, 2021 at the Edgecomb Town Hall. The objective of this meeting will be to hold a vote of the active members of our fellowship on a motion to hire Bettina for the position of Half-Time Contract Minister. We will need to meet quorum requirements, so please mark this date on your calendars and plan to attend. We will offer Zoom participation. Friends are welcome to attend the meeting, but only active members will be eligible for the formal vote.

Draft Motion: *The membership of the Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship authorizes the Board of Trustees to hire Bettina Lehovec to the position of Half-Time Contract Minister to start as soon as reasonably possible and extend as late as September 1, 2022. In doing so, we waive the requirement in Article XII of the Bylaws that any candidate called for the position of minister be in fellowship with the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), and we will rely instead on the UUA Credentialing Director having given Bettina permission to apply for 1 year contract positions.*

Bettina will report administratively to the President of the Board of Trustees. The Board is negotiating the contract with Bettina. The contract will not be signed until after the membership has authorized hiring her and after her references have been checked out.

This is an exciting time for our fellowship! We thank the Ministerial Search Committee for the work that they have done this fall and for recommending Bettina Lehovec for this contract position. We also look forward eagerly to the next phase where our fellowship will embark on the search for an Interim Minister.

Your Board of Trustees,

Caitlin Bogdan, Molly Davis, Phyllis Loney, Dick Ober, Mark Ziarnik

Note: Here are links to both Zoom services Bettina led for us this summer.

Sunday, August 22, 2021 (Zoom only; service starts at 4:09 into the recording)

Topic: Midcoast UU Fellowship Sunday Worship

Date: Aug 22, 2021 09:59 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Meeting Recording:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/tt0xJP1zWkKPIUc3HUkwzJ4znA9_lkpCYu6hymTwNxJ8JhUf3Ld2C1zSGpwFloHp.qpbn-iTrIWqSXowH)

[tt0xJP1zWkKPIUc3HUkwzJ4znA9_lkpCYu6hymTwNxJ8JhUf3Ld2C1zSGpwFloHp.qpbn-iTrIWqSXowH](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/tt0xJP1zWkKPIUc3HUkwzJ4znA9_lkpCYu6hymTwNxJ8JhUf3Ld2C1zSGpwFloHp.qpbn-iTrIWqSXowH)

Access Passcode: kr^D&j43

Sunday, September 26, 2021 (under the tent; service starts 5:21 into the recording)

Topic: Midcoast UU Fellowship Sunday Worship

Date: Sep 26, 2021 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Meeting Recording:

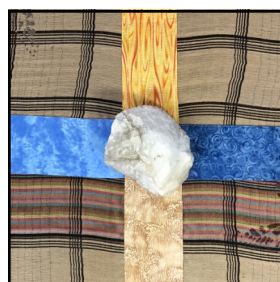
<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/TIVYJriL-AhkzDNL6FQXw6l9OYZfZnZUjedR7ei2qrAGHBi-33h36EaWwdjCV55P.FxcR957XOwPZpdf8>

Access Passcode: J\$QQOfR8

Religious Exploration

Spirit Connect for RE families begins November 21

Join Carney on select Sundays at 4:30 p.m. for a special zoom program. Each *Spirit Connect* session will include: lighting the chalice; learning to sign the song, *Spirit of Life*; hearing a story about the theme (Gratitude for Nov. 21); doing an activity; and taking home an action item. This program, designed for ages 5-10, is open to children of any age and from anywhere in the world (zoom benefit)! Click here to learn more: [Spirit Connect Program Information](#). *If you are interested or have questions, contact Carney at dre@uurockland.org.*





SAVE THE DATE! - ANNUAL MEETING, December 5, 2021

Our annual meeting will be held following the Sunday worship service on December 5, 2021. A detailed agenda will be shared with you in advance, but it will certainly include electing our next Board of Trustees and voting on our fellowship's budget for 2022. A substantial turnout is needed to achieve a quorum so that we can vote. Our fellowship is a democracy and your voice and vote matter. Please put the date on your calendar and make every effort to join us for the meeting which will include a Zoom component for those who are unable to participate in person.

As a final plug, our Nominating Committee is hard at work recruiting candidates for our 2022 Board, as well as candidates to serve on the next Nominating Committee. If you are potentially interested in serving on either of these teams, please reach out to Tiffany Vencile at willeywonka@hotmail.com.

Covenant Circles Are Here ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Four new MUUF discussion groups will begin in November and December, and the original Circle will continue. We hope that you all will become a part of one of these Circles - a significant aspect of our shared, small-group ministry.

Covenant Circles allow us to share honest, open, deep and heartfelt conversations - the stories of our lives - in a community of respectful, willing, and supportive listeners.

It's time now to sign up for a Circle from choices A, B, C, and D below. Choose one group and **contact the host(s) directly by November 15** to reserve your space.

If all the spaces are filled in a particular Circle, we will find you another group. We want to keep the groups small, but everyone will have a place in this program! Those already in Circle E may select a second group if you have the time to commit to it - you are the "seeds" nourishing the new groups.

A huge thank you goes to Diane, Kay, Melissa, Mike, Penny and Zig for becoming our new Covenant

Circle leaders. 😊😊😊😊😊😊

Jayne Gordon, Membership Chair

THE CIRCLES

A. Co-hosted by **Penny and Mark Ziarnik**

Topics: open

First meeting at 2733 Bristol Road, New Harbor (their house) on **Wednesday, December 15 from 4:00-5:30**. Group will decide next times/venues.

Contact: pziarnik@hotmail.com or ziarnik58@gmail.com

4 spaces, and all participants must be fully vaccinated.

B. Co-hosted by **Diane Morrison and Kay Miller**

Topics: open

First meeting on Zoom: **Wednesday, December 1 from 4:00-5:30**. Group will decide next times/venues.

Contact: Dianemorrison58@gmail.com or kayndick@gmail.com



4-8 spaces

C. Hosted by **Melissa Dearborn**

Topics: around the general theme of "Transitions and Other Everyday Disturbances." Here, we can discuss change, letting go, sitting in the space between what is gone and what will be. First meeting on Zoom: **Thursday, December 2 from 4:30-6:00**. Group will decide next times/venues.

Contact: Melissa.dearborn@comcast.net



4-8 spaces

D. Hosted by **Michael Dearborn**

Topics: exploring men's issues

First meeting on Zoom: **Tuesday, December 7 from 6:00-7:30pm**. Group will decide next times/venues.

Contact: Michael.dearborn@comcast.net



4-8 spaces, men only

E. Hosted by **Jayne Gordon**

Topics: open

First meeting on Zoom (as previously agreed by group): **Tuesday, November 30 from 4:00-5:30**. Group will decide next times/venues.

Contact: jaynegor@gmail.com

This is a continuation for members of the original Covenant Circle only. (You know who you are!)

Pastoral Care

A reminder that during this time without a minister, members of the fellowship in need of pastoral care can contact the co-chairs of the Care Committee, Sandy Barth (207-563-5565) or Joan Whitmire (207-350-6954). Either of them can establish contact with Rev. Charles Stephens.

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### **We Are Hosting Our First Online Auction November 15 – 30th!**

Fundraising has been a critical focus for MUUSAN this fall, and we've decided to host an online auction to help meet our goals. We are depending on all of you to help make our auction a success! The MUUSAN Auction will go live online on Monday, November 15 and will run through to November 30th.

For auction preview, go to <https://www.32auctions.com/muusan>. There is still time to make an auction donation if you have an item to donate. Send item info. to [jlinzee@comcast.net](mailto:jlinzee@comcast.net)

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

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**\*\* Please email all mini-newsletter articles and website information to:**  
[news@uumidcoast.org](mailto:news@uumidcoast.org)