



## Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

**Weekly Newsletter, December 18, 2021**



**December 19:** Due to the current forecast of significant snow overnight tonight, continuing into mid-morning tomorrow, the Sunday, December 19, 2021 worship service led by Bettina Lehovec will be held via Zoom only and will NOT be held in person. Please join us via Zoom at 10:30. Stay safe, all.

**Bettina Lehovec** - "Responsibility to the Earth" The care of the Earth is our most ancient and most worthy, and after all our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it and to foster its renewal is our only hope." These words by Wendell Berry call us to action. How are we taking care of this world that we live in? Is there room for reasoned hope?

### **COVID MESSAGE**

For the health of our members, families and friends, please use your own good judgment when deciding whether or not to attend our worship services in person. Please do NOT attend worship in-person if any of the following conditions apply to you:

- You are not fully vaccinated against Covid.
- You are feeling ill.
- You have tested positive for Covid and may still pose a risk to others.
- You have recently been exposed to someone who may have Covid.

Individuals who fall into one or more of these categories are asked to participate in our worship services remotely, via Zoom.

Everyone who attends our worship services is asked to wear a protective mask while inside the building. If you need to temporarily remove your mask when speaking, please replace it when you have finished. New paper masks and hand sanitizer should be available at the entry table.

Ultimately, if you feel unsafe, stay home and join us via Zoom.

### **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)

## Religious Exploration

### Gingerbread Houses on December 30th

It's a tradition! We will  
be gathering at the  
Lomas house! Thanks  
Kate Pennington for  
providing the houses &  
decorating materials!



#### **New Year's Hike**

Join your Midcoast UU friends for an easy hike on **Sunday, Jan. 2, from 1:30-3 p.m.** Bettina Lehovec and Jayne Gordon will lead. Family friendly! Open to all. We hope to see you there!

#### **JANUARY 2: BACK COVE, NEW HARBOR 1:30-3**

This 1.5 mile circular walk is for when you just want to get outside and want an easy, short loop, mostly on roads. It has a nice variety of scenic views, great even on gloomy days!

The Drive: From Damariscotta, take Route 130 down the peninsula towards Pemaquid Point. Go past the intersection with Route 32, past the Pemaquid Craft Coop, and turn left on Southside Road by the ice cream place. Follow the Thompson Cottages signs and park on Southside (which Google Maps also calls N-2-A) just beyond the intersection with Leeman Hill Road.

## Immigrant Justice

During this month of giving, one of the most helpful things you can do for new Maine immigrants is to make a donation to ILAP (Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project). Their primary mission is to provide legal services to 3000+ people in the next year. Your gift will be doubled by a generous \$10,000 match opportunity from the George J. and Theresa L. Cotsirilos Family Foundation. You can send a check directly to **ILAP, P.O. Box 17917, Portland, ME 04112** or give a donation to **Sandy Barth at a Fellowship service** and she will submit it for you to ILAP.



## Social Justice



*Representative Rena Newell*

**Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network**  
**Next Network Meeting:**  
**Saturday, Jan. 8**  
**10:00 am - 12:30 pm via Zoom**

Special focus on the Maine Tribal Sovereignty bill (LD 1626)  
with guest speaker  
Passamaquoddy Tribal Representative Rena Newell

Sign up at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqcO2rqj0oE9xO1LTdHPhfdmlwr9d1p0qr>

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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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## December is another Diaper Drive month!

We collect diapers and menstrual supplies for our local families all month long. Please leave them in the tote on the Damariscotta Dental porch. (Size 5 and 6 are especially helpful. ) *Thank you!*



*"I'm happy to report that our system of having a volunteer take a month at a time to stock the diaper cart at the Newcastle Ecumenical Food Pantry has been working well for six months! We have adapted, during these pandemic months, to safely continue our mission to help with area diaper need. Thanks ever so much to you and your congregations.*

*We've given out 9,850 diapers during the first 10 months of this year, so I expect we will distribute 10,000 diapers this year. That's despite having a slight decrease in families coming to the Newcastle food pantry for diapers (and the food pantry had a decrease in number of patrons, too). Perhaps the combination of pandemic isolating and pandemic aid and stronger turnout at other local pantries helped influence the numbers, but they seem to be picking up again as the weather turns cold. We also started distributing diapers through the Jefferson Food Pantry and the Waldoboro Clothing Closet.*

*Despite not holding a formal "Mother's Day till Father's Day" diaper drive this year, individual donors and member churches stepped up. We've collected enough donations in diapers and finances to cover those 10,000 diapers we distributed, and a little bit more."*

*- From Sue Rockwood at Midcoast Meeting of Friends*

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# **2022 Stewardship Appeal**

## **Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

*Celebrating 40 Years of Community*

***Nurture Spiritual Growth,***

***Engage in Justice,***

***Build Community with Respect and Compassion***

### **Introduction**

To build and maintain a healthy and thriving Fellowship takes money. Thank you for your financial support in 2021! We would not be where we are without it. And we will not get to where we want to be in 2022 if we don't have adequate financial support to bring our dreams to reality. This is why we are reaching out to all of our members and friends with this 2022 Stewardship Appeal.

You don't need to be a member of the Fellowship to submit a pledge, and we will gratefully welcome financial support from our many dear friends, but all of our members are strongly encouraged to submit a pledge for 2022. What's different in this year's pledge form? It's that we are asking for a two-part pledge: one baseline and an additional, contingent "stretch" goal.

### **Part 1: Support for our Baseline Budget**

The currently proposed baseline budget for 2022 is \$68,013. This is the budget that will enable us to continue on our current path, including:

- Our half-time Minister, at UUA fair compensation
- Our Religious Education Director and program
- Our Music Director/Accompanist
- Rent for our worship venue
- Budgets for social justice, choir music, worship services, and flowers for caring
- Contributing our fair share to the UUA Annual Program Fund

### **Part 2: Making a Full-Time Interim Minister Possible**

Our new half-time minister, Bettina Lehovec, will be with us through the end of July. At that point, our Fellowship could either continue with a half-time traditional minister or we could hire a full-time Interim Minister. A UUA Interim Minister has specialized skills for working with congregations that are in transition.

This 2022 Stewardship Appeal is the time for us to make that financial commitment. we are seeking substantial pledges that will enable us and a prospective Interim Minister to feel confident that we will have enough income to finance a full 12-month term running from August 2022 through August 2023.

## **2022 Stewardship Appeal**

### **Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

## **Your Pledge Is Essential**

Your Board members invite you to celebrate over 40 years of Community through a 2022 Stewardship Commitment. We need your help to ensure that the Fellowship continues our important work:

- Engaging professional religious leadership and sustaining our lay religious leadership and Director of Religious Exploration
- Providing meaningful music and guest speakers in worship
- Returning to physical in person worship at Skidompha or other locations
- Ensuring that our social justice projects are vital, visible and effective

### **2022 Stewardship Commitment**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART 1: In Support of our Baseline Budget**, I/we pledge to pay a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for 2022 (January 1 through December 31).

**PART 2: If the Members of the Fellowship decide to hire a Full-Time Interim Minister to start in August 2022**, I/we pledge to donate an additional total of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be applied toward the Minister's salary.

I prefer to pay:    Weekly    Monthly    Quarterly    Annual    Lump Sum    Other

[Pledges May Be Fulfilled By Cash, Check, or use PayPal™ here:](#)

[www.uumidcoast.org/donate/2022-pledge-form/](http://www.uumidcoast.org/donate/2022-pledge-form/)

***Thank you for your contribution to the life of our Fellowship!***

Use the link above, place this form in the offering basket, or mail to:

PO Box 1021, Damariscotta ME 04543

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