



## Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

### Worship Invitation February 12, 2022



#### **February 13:** "Side With Love" (*excerpt*) from UUA website)

This service has been created as part of UUA's "30 Days of Love". an annual celebration that focuses on bold, courageous action for intersectional racial justice. It offers hopeful, moving, challenging reminders about what we, as Unitarian Universalists, are called to do, and BE, in the world as the subject of several reflections by a variety of ministers from across the nation.

Those MUUF members who miss Rev. Erika Hewitt will enjoy her contribution to the opening and closing words.

There will be time for response and thoughtful conversation after the streamed service.

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)

**February 27:** "My White Privilege, and Yours?" Patti Anderson, Melissa Dearborn and Mary Finn are three members of an Antiracism Book Group sponsored by a local library and facilitated by a trained SEED program facilitator. The SEED program of Wellesley College trains leaders to facilitate their peers in conversational communities to "drive societal change toward social justice". In this case, racial justice.

How do we develop a diverse and multicultural Beloved Community that includes everyone? Come and share your stories. We will all listen.

## Message from the Minister



Dear Fellowship,

I want to highlight a couple of things happening this month. One is the Opening the Doors of Our Minds discussion led by Carney McRae on Feb. 23. This is a great opportunity for youth and adults to join in some important conversation around racial justice. Carney chose the young adult resources — books, movies, TED talks, and more — with all of us in mind! These are good ways to get into the ideas in a manageable amount of time.

*Bettina Lehovec*

Visit the choice board, choose your resources (one or two or three, whatever you have time for), and sign up for this exciting conversation! (*See page 4*)

The Minister's Open Door meetings on Wednesdays at noon continue to go well. We're enjoying good discussions in a relaxed format. You are all welcome to join us. I am considering what I can do to engage working folks, too. One offering will be a monthly vespers service beginning Tuesday, March 8.

The pastoral care team met last week and is available to help in a variety of ways. Thank you, Sandy Barth and Kay Miller, for leading this important team! People who wish to schedule a pastoral care appointment can contact me directly. I am here to talk with you about your concerns.

For worship on Sunday, we will be streaming the Side with Love service created by the UUA. The theme this year is "What If I Only Had 30 Days to Love?" Log into our Zoom room to watch the service together. Susan Borg and Penny Ziarnik will host a conversation afterward.

My service on March 20 will explore some themes from the Netflix movie "Don't Look Up." No need to watch the movie! But if you've been wanting to and you have Netflix, this is a good time.

I am so happy to be here with you and navigating this part of the Fellowship's journey together!

Much love and care,

Bettina

## Committee on Ministry

Greetings from the newly reactivated Committee on Ministry (COM). The MUUF Board of Trustees has reestablished the COM as a standing committee and has appointed us as its members. We and the board agree that having a COM is vitally important to the health and functioning of the Fellowship. We are writing to share with all of you what we see as our role, and to let all members and friends of MUUF know how and when to contact us.

The UUA gives congregations much leeway in determining the scope and purpose of their COM. There is no universally adopted description of what the COM is and does. A primary goal of MUUF's COM is to work collaboratively with the minister to help ensure the minister's success in our Fellowship's shared ministry. The ministries of the Fellowship are shared by the professional staff, by the board of trustees, and by the committees and volunteers. We want to help ensure that all the ministries of the congregation remain on track and in alignment with MUUF's principles and purposes. We envision doing this by checking in regularly with committee members, board members, the minister, and the Director of Religious Education. We also invite MUUF members and friends to reach out to us with concerns, questions, or suggestions about our shared ministry.

It is important to note that the COM is not primarily charged with conflict resolution. MUUF's congregational covenant asks that we all strive to communicate directly with honesty and respect, and to speak up when we are hurt. The COM is available to help when direct personal communication is not viable, is not desired by one of the parties, or requires support. In such cases we can serve as a sounding board or can suggest other resources that might be helpful.

The scope of the COM – looking at all the Fellowship's shared ministries – may seem huge. We believe that the size of our congregation makes this a reasonable charge. We ask that you help us by remembering MUUF's covenant in your interactions with others, whether in committee work or at Sunday services. As the covenant reminds us, "We all share responsibility for upholding this covenant." We are grateful to have been entrusted with the responsibility of helping MUUF build and maintain community.

The COM meets regularly once a month, on the second Wednesday evening, and we will meet at other times on an as-needed basis. We welcome members and friends to contact us when needed. Our contact information and preferred modes/times of communication are listed below.

Susan Borg, email preferred (susangborg@gmail.com); phone 563-2535

Mary Finn, email preferred (maryefinn4@gmail.com)

Kate Pennington, email preferred (mizkatepenn@gmail.com); phone 207-607-2386 (evenings and weekends)

## Social Justice

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



There's still time to choose a young adult book to read and join our zoom discussion on **Wednesday, February 23, 6:30-7:30 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](#) and choose something to read – many books you can get at the library or ask Carney if she has a copy. Carney is currently reading Stamped and has already gained some valuable insight. If you have not read any young adult literature, you are in for a treat. Books are usually a quick read 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.

Register for the zoom discussion and start reading or watch a movie:

Zoom Registration:

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

Even if you can't make the zoom meeting, parents especially can choose one of these books to read with their children, then have a discussion at home. Please let Carney know if you are doing this (*just curious*).

So don't delay, register here, and choose a couple of options on [the Racial Justice Choice Board](#).

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The Maine Legislature has started voting on bills this past week. Here are some important Climate Change Bills coming up shortly. Our own Melissa Dearborn has provided verbal testimony for LD 1902. Thank you, Melissa. And thank you to Jill Linzee who is our representative on the Environmental Priorities Coalition:

- 1) Contact legislators to support **LD 1902 - An Act To Establish a Pilot Program To Encourage Climate Change Education in Maine Public Schools**  
[vote is soon] – [for information see EPC link at bottom of this section](#)
- 2) Sign a “sector letter” in support of **LD 489 - Pine Tree Amendment**  
Use this link to do that - <https://www.pinetreeamendment.org/advocacy-toolkit> You can also

contact legislators directly to vote for this bill. [*lots of opposition building against bill – needs 2/3 vote*] - **for information see EPC link below**

3) Contact legislators to support **LD 1634 - An Act to Create the Maine Generation Authority**. This is likely the MOST IMPORTANT climate change bill before the legislature this session, as it will lower the cost for expanding renewable energy in Maine.

Also - Here's the OpEd by Richard Silkman about the Maine Generation Authority: <https://www.pressherald.com/2021/03/14/insight-energy-authority-needed-to/>

**We need more signatures on this petition that is linked to this 2022 bill that MUUSAN opposes -**  
LR 2167 - An Act To Clarify the Role of the Legislature in Sustaining Good-paying Jobs in the Forest Products Industry

**Go to:** <https://www.nrcm.org/take-action/>

Find the title that reads: Add Your Voice: Support a Free-Flowing Kennebec River and click on the Add Your Voice button.

This petition and your signatures will be shared with all Maine state legislators by the Natural Resources Council of Maine, and will help in the effort to oppose this bill.

**Important** – We are asking folks to ask their legislators to **support the 7 (seven) bills** that are priority bills of the **Environmental Priorities Coalition** (EPC) for 2022. To learn more about these – see bill descriptions and fact sheets, and also be able to watch the EPC recorded presentations about these, go to: <https://protectmaine.org/epc/priorities/2022>



**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](mailto:news@uumidcoast.org)

Worship Invitation Plus Weekly Newsletter Editor: Jennifer Ober



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](mailto: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.