

MUUFLETTER for May 2019

Newsletter from Midcoast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

SUNDAY SERVICES SCHEDULE

Always at 10:30 a.m.

Porter Meeting Hall, Skidompha Library

Entrance on Elm St., Damariscotta

May's Theme: Seeking Our Truth

May 5: My Path to Unitarian Universalism

Patti Anderson

Service led by Tiffany Vencile

As part of our UU Shared Ministry Patti has been a member of the Team of Worship Associates since last summer. She participated in the Sermon Writing Class offered by the Reverend Erika Hewitt in 2018 and this sermon is the result of that endeavour. In search of community all her adult life Patti came to Unitarian Universalism and joined this Midcoast Fellowship having found a place and a congregation that welcomes all while supporting personal growth and a mission of life sustaining principles.

May 12: Intimacy & Ultimacy, Part 1

Rev. Erika Hewitt

Unitarian theologian James Luther Adams (1902-1994) once summarized the reasons people go to church as the need for intimacy and ultimacy. Today we'll examine intimacy: our need to feel accepted, connected and loved. **This service will be followed by an optional group discussion with Rev. Erika.**

May 19: Intimacy & Ultimacy, Part 2

Rev. Erika Hewitt

Ultimacy is our human need for meaning: glimmers of answers to the Big Questions that might point to a larger purpose for our lives. Today we'll explore the intersection of religion and astrophysics (yes, really). Our service will include **special music by Carter Ruff** and a **welcoming ceremony for our newest members!** *Our Share the Plate offering will be given to New Hope for Women.*

(continued on page 2)



Minister's Message

All this joy, all this sorrow; such is life. (I wish I could take credit for that phrase, but it's a John Denver song.) Yes, spring is here —

Rev. Erika Hewitt evidence of new life brings wonder on a daily basis — and yet life never stops moving in circles: endings, too, are part of our human journey. Some of our members are grieving losses or fears even as the Earth reminds us of life's persistence.

All this joy, all this sorrow: such is life... and together, we're wise enough, compassionate enough, and awake enough to hold it all. We bring our truths to our collective whole, telling our stories and weaving our lives together more intimately, more authentically. Beloved community is where we heal one another, and bring one another into being.

As we spend the month engaging the theme of "Seeking Our Truth," I hope you'll share a story of yours, or a truth. I hope you keep showing up to our vibrant, joyful, tender community. And I hope you know how much we love you, and what a privilege it is for me to serve as your minister.

In faith,
Rev. Erika



Share the Plate Donation

Rev. Erika hand-delivered our \$373 Share the Plate donation, gathered on Easter Sunday, to Erin Rice at the Pine Tree Society. Erin said,

"Thank you so, so much for your generosity. We are only able to do what we do thanks to the support from friends like you."



FREE! [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

**MUUSAN SPRING CONFERENCE
& Annual Meeting**

Saturday, May 11, 2019

9:30-2:30, lunch provided

UU Community Church of Augusta

69 Winthrop Street, Augusta, ME 04330

9:00 - 9:30 Registration/Meet & Greet

**9:30-2:30 Worship, Keynote Panel, Issue
Groups Breakout, Lunch and Connecting,
Annual Meeting,**

MUUSAN Review and Looking Forward

This is our year! With a new legislature and governor, the State House hums with optimism and a culture of civility. MUUSAN members look forward to being able to successfully move the bills we have endorsed forward.

Join us to hear a panel of legislators, who are connected to Unitarian-Universalism, discuss the process and share their priorities for the State of Maine's 129th Legislature.

The social justice work of MUUSAN and our Maine UU churches and members will prevail if we continue the hard work, the holy work, of showing up. Join us as we gather together to live our faith in action.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

by Thursday, May 9TH

as that helps us plan food and materials.



Rosie Davis

President's Corner

Greeting friends,

I have just returned from a much needed vacation with Glen and Mason. We were in Florida and it was lovely to have sun, the sea and family time. It was also nice to return home to Maine even with the rainy weather that greeted us.

Last month Julia (Fitz-Randolph) and myself attended the New England Regional District (NNED) Annual Meeting at the UU Church in Concord NH. What a wonderful time we had. We attended a music concert performed by Reggie Harris who is an innovative guitarist, a fearlessly creative vocalist, and an engaging storyteller whose concert performances are infused with joy. Reggie engaged us all with his storytelling through song of the Underground Railroad Movement. I left there feeling energized and fulfilled.

On Saturday we were blessed with a full day including a wonderful morning worship service, a presentation/discussion about Nurturing connections : The Power of We and then the Annual Meeting of the NNED where Julia and I were privileged delegates for our congregation.

It was a joy to reconnect with people I had met in the past and to meet new people whom I look forward to seeing again in the future. I would definitely recommend attending if you get the chance.

Happy Spring!

In faith, Rosie

(services - continued from page 1)

May 26: "How to Be Silent"

Gregory C. Carrow-Boyd, Guest minister

Silence can often be a commodity in a world that urgently needs our attention. However, the ability to be silent or to bring silence to our minds or bodies, when necessary, is a valuable spiritual practice that comes to us from many faith traditions. Join with us for an interactive worship service of silence, contemplation and reflection on when not to be silent.



Religious Education

May RE Sunday Mornings

Theme: Seeking our Truth

Carney Doucette **May 5 – Field Trip to Arbuckle Farm** – We love baby animals! After a Time for All Ages, we'll head out as a group to visit the farm and see the baby pigs. Dress for being outside. More details will be sent directly to registered RE families.

May 12 – Henry Hikes to Fitchburg

May 19 – The Empty Pot and we will have our Mystery Friends Reveal Luncheon!

May 26 – Elmer

Who are the Mystery Friends?

Have you noticed the gift bags on the window sills each Sunday morning? These are part of our Mystery Friends program. Ten children are matched with ten adults – they are getting to know each other through notes and small gifts that are passed through these gift bags. On Sunday, May 19, we will have a Mystery Friends Reveal Luncheon. Mystery friends will sit together for lunch. The entire congregation is invited to join the luncheon ~ you might discover a new friend, too. Bring a potluck item to share. If you can help with setting up tables and food following worship or with clean up, please let Carney know.



Blueberry Cove Camp



Come gather round the fireplace, explore tidal pools, play, sing, talk, dance, relax, share..... Rain or shine, there will be something to do. Or relax and read a book, lay in the sunshine or kick a ball around. This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your connections with our beloved community in a sacred outdoor setting.



FOOD: We will provide our own food and cook for each other. Please sign up to bring food items for meals; the sign up sheet is in the church lobby or part of the online registration form at <https://tinyurl.com/UURretreat2019>. Everyone who is able will help out in the kitchen once.

ACTIVITIES: We will be offering activities on Saturday and Sunday. Some will be created on the spot as the mood dictates. Others will be planned. You can do as much or as little as you like! We will have Sunday morning worship with Rev. Mark at 10 a.m. outside if the weather cooperates or in the lodge.

Bring a portable comfortable chair to relax in and water shoes to explore the ocean. The tide will be high mid-morning, so bring your own boat or plan to use one of the camp boats. If you're staying Saturday night, you'll want to bring a sleeping bag, pillow, warm clothing, towel, toiletries, and a flashlight. Remember to bring a tick repellent like Naturapel.

Sorry, no pets.

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**You are invited to join
UU Rockland at
Blueberry Cove 4-H Camp
in Tenants Harbor**

Saturday, June 1- Sunday, June 2

*We create community together with activities,
meals and worship.*

(Blueberry Cove Camp-continued from page 3)



Daily Schedules

Saturday:

- 9AM Come anytime - tide will be good for boating- morning mid-afternoon
 10 AM Cabin & tent spaces assigned
 12 noon Lunch
 5:30 PM Supper
 *6:30 PM Coffee House & Variety Show
 *7:30ish Campfire/Board Games (s'mores provided)

**Bring your favorite songs, musical instruments & any talent you'd like to share.*

Sunday:

- 8:00 AM Breakfast
 10:00 AM All-church worship led by Mark
 11:00 AM Potluck brunch
 12 noon Eat & Play
 2:00 PM Clean up - everything swept and packed
 3:00+ PM Enjoy the rest of the afternoon
 ~Take a hike, relax in the sun, kick a ball in the field, go boating.

Registration Form for the Retreat is on

page 5. Copies will also be available on the Welcome Table in the lobby. If you have questions, please contact Carney (midcoastuure@gmail.com or 975-9994). Help us with planning by registering using the brochure or online at <https://tinyurl.com/UURetreat2019> by **Sunday, May 26.**

Come for a day or overnight, but do come!

UU FIELD TRIP! Tuesday, June 11th



Are you curious about what the Unitarian Universalist Association is like? Are you interested in visiting its headquarters, and meeting other UUs from New England?

Join us on Tuesday, June 11th as some of us travel by bus — the 9:30 a.m. Concord Coach* out of Portland — to Boston. We'll attend a chapel service led by Rev. Erika, share lunch with UUA staff, and receive a guided tour of the UUA headquarters. We'll browse in the InSpirit bookstore before catching the bus back to Portland. (We currently plan to arrive back in Portland by 6:15 p.m.) *Please note that the UUA headquarters are fully accessible, but the rest of the trip may involve walking.*

If you're interested in joining us, please contact Rosie Davis: rosiesdavis@gmail.com.

*The Concord Coach is a 2-hour bus ride each way. The bus has a bathroom, wifi, and an optional movie. We'll arrive at Boston's South Station, which is a 6-block walk — or a short cab ride — to UUA headquarters. The round-trip fare is \$40 but if that cost is prohibitive to you, Rev. Erika is offering travel scholarships to anyone who'd like to come. Please contact her at erika@UUminister.com.

South Station
Boston
or Bust



REGISTRATION FOR RETREAT June 1-June 2, 2019

Register by Sunday, May 26 to help planners.

Name(s):

Phone/email:

If you are staying overnight there is a fixed fee from the camp. UUR pays the rental fee & supplies. You may make a donation to offset costs by check or there will be a donation basket at the retreat. *No overnight fee for children four and under.*

_____ Saturday day ONLY, sign up to bring food items to share

_____ Overnight: sleep in a cabin; with hot breakfast, \$23/per person

_____ Overnight: bring your tent; with hot breakfast, \$13/per person

_____ Sunday ONLY, come to worship & bring a brunch item.

Total Cost for overnight: _____

Donation to help offset costs: _____

Checks made out to: "First Universalist Church"

Please write "Retreat" on the memo line and send check & registration form to:

First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway, Rockland 04841

Attn: Carolyn -Church Retreat

_____ I need transportation.

_____ I can lead an activity (including music Saturday evening).

_____ I can help greet, cook breakfast or first aid availability

_____ I can help greet people and assign cabins (Sat. 9-11 a.m.)

_____ I can help with transportation.



Hospitality / Membership Corner

At long last it's Spring, the flowers are beginning to bloom,

Sandy Barth and we can expect more visitors. Please go out of your way to welcome any new faces you see, and ask them if they have signed the Visitors Book with their email address so they can receive our monthly Newsletter.

On May 19th we will be having a welcoming ritual for all those who have recently signed our Membership Book. That will include the Arbuckle family (John, Holly, Noah and Zea), Todd Steel, and Emmy Swanton. If you have been attending the Fellowship for awhile, generally support our Principles, and would like to become more involved. We would love to have you join by signing the Membership Book. Speak to Board Member Jayne Gordon (jaynegor@gmail.com) or Rev. Erika (Erika@UUminister.com).

And if you want to get to know our members and friends on a more informal basis, plan to attend our "All Ages Events" on Fridays May 31st and June 14th from 5 - 6:30 pm.

Sandy Barth
sbarth1942@gmail.com

ALL-AGES PIZZA & PROGRAM NIGHT Friday, May 31st at 5:00 p.m. Porter Auditorium



Join Rev. Erika for a night of friendship and fun — in fact, bring a friend! We gather at 5 p.m. in our worship space for pizza and non-alcoholic beverages (please bring some money for the donation basket, if you're able). While we eat, we enjoy conversation across the generations. At 5:30, Rev. Erika will lead an informal, interactive program for all ages. We'll clean up together and will say good-bye by 7:00 at the latest.

Erika asks that you please RSVP so that we have enough pizza (text is best — 207-650-5757 — but you can also email erika@UUminister.com). We're looking forward to seeing you!

People To People Donations

People to People is located in the basement of the Damariscotta Baptist Church, and is gratefully accepting household items, in particular bedding. They are open Mondays 4-6 pm, or leave donations in the stairwell at their door. Speak to Social Justice Committee members for any questions.

Robin Hall

Our community anti-racism vigils

continue every Monday at noon. Please join us for 30 minutes at Memorial Park in Newcastle. Convenient parking at the Second Congregational Church. Make your own signs or choose among the many that are available; bring a chair if that is more comfortable for you. All are welcome!

**People United Planning Meeting
Mon., May 6, at 12:30 (after the vigil)
Second Congregational Church
in Newcastle.**

People United Against Racism (PUAR) is holding a meeting to decide on what activities to support in the coming 12 months and to get organized for them! This is the second meeting we've called this year, the first one was about the vigil (which we are continuing), this one is the promised "everything else we might do" meeting! Hopefully you know about the many good works PUAR helped support and communicate about these past three years (interfaith MLK Jr. services, scholarships for LA students to attend showings of Green Book, partner for Sherri Mitchell's presentation at Lincoln Theater, ongoing anti-racism book group, etc.). Please come and share this invitation with others who might get involved!

Hospitality Schedule

- May 5 - (Purple Pod) - Jennifer & Dick, Robin, Bob & Joan**
- May 12 - (Indigo Pod) - Lindy, Stephanie & Isaac, Rob & Molly**
- May 19 - (Green Pod) - Kate, Phyllis, Deb Arter, Tim & Karen**
- May 26 - (Red Pod) - Rosie, Bob, Deb Lomas**
- Jun. 2 - (Blue Pod) - Tiffany, Joelle and Kay**

May 29th Community Supper



Our next Community Supper is Wednesday May 29th at the Congregation Church from 4:30-6pm. Please come help us serve those less fortunate with a hearty meal and a warm smile. We are

always looking for volunteers to help make food items and serve at the dinner.

If you are interested in helping out please contact Tiffany Vencile willeywonka@hotmail.com--207-551-9248 or Rosie Davis at rosiedavis@gmail.com.

This community service is a nice way to get to know folks outside the fellowship as well as connect with our own members while doing service work. We look forward to seeing you on May 29th!

MUUF Caring Team

Our caring team supports members and friends who might need occasional help such as a ride, a prepared and delivered meal or an errand.

Contact Robin Hall, 207-380-7369
robin.hall518@gmail.com

Submit all newsletter / order of service information to news@uumidcoast.org