

November
2020

The Point

Universalist Unitarian Church of Waterville
69 Silver Street
Waterville, ME 04901

Office Phone: 207-873-4006

Services start at 10:00 a.m.

Committee Members, Officers and Trustees

Archives

Kit Alexander
Jon Wilder

Bookkeeper

Katrina Goodrich

Board of Trustees and Officers

Officers

Pres: Dennis Perkins	2021
VP: Rurik Spence	2021
Treasurer: Allane Ball	2021
Clerk: Sarah Seder	2021
Collector: Marilyn Wheeler	

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By Laws

Bill Lee, Chair
Dave Wynne

Caring Committee

Allane Ball
Ellie Duhamel
Marcel Duhamel
Carolyn MacRae, Chair
Sue Morrill
Ann Paradis
Rurik Spence
Linda Woods

Collector

Mark Jose
Marilyn Wheeler

Dennis Perkins, President
julep1027@yahoo.com

Rurik Spence, Vice President
rurik.spence@gmail.com

Beth Schiller, Administrative Director
uuwtvladm@gmail.com

Connie Winship, Point Editor
cwinship@roadrunner.com

Church website: <http://uucwaterville.com>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/uucwtvl>

**During the corona virus pandemic
online worship services will be held at 10:00 a.m.
and will be followed by a virtual Coffee Hour.
For more information, go to uucwaterville.com
All are welcome!**

To the Point

By the time you read this, we will be only a few days from an election that promises to be momentous. Am I the only one who feels like all of the seven UU Principles have been under continual assault for nearly four years?

The inherent worth of every man, woman and child has been attacked by a vicious immigration policy, by barely disguised race-baiting, by the threat of judicial reversal of the 50-year old principle of a woman's right to choose. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations have taken a back seat to corporate greed fed by gross inequities in tax law that levies tax penalties against waiters while sheltering billionaires. Acceptance of the full range of spiritual pursuits falls prey to the cry that only Christian observance can be the criterion for national identity. The responsible search for truth and meaning through science and research and adherence to fact are ridiculed through political denial of climate change expertise or the medical advice of epidemiologists. The goal of world community is undermined by the dissolution of treaties and verbal and financial attacks upon world health organizations. And respect for the interdependent web of all existence is ridiculed by a MAGA hubris that gives the human race the right to do whatever it wishes to the remainder of creation.

These six of our seven UU Principles are under attack. And yet the one principle remaining — the deep belief in the electoral process as the ultimate remedy in re-establishing a sane direction in society — is, as a spiritual principle, unique to modern liberal religion. Behind it is the understanding that evolution is not yet complete and that the best instincts of humankind will eventually reveal themselves in the free expression of hope and commitment through the casting of a ballot. As the ministers say, "Amen. Let it be so."

Dennis Perkins: Board President

Communications Team

Peter Burgher Photographer
Beth Schiller Admin Director
Mark Jose Wayside Pulpit
Karen Kusiak Community Liaison
Facebook
Carolyn MacRae Photographer
Charlie Morrill Outside Bulletin Board
Sue Morrill Interfaith Council
Beth Schiller Webmaster
Rurik Spence IT Administrator
Sarah Webster The Point newsletter
Connie Winship Community Liaison
The Point newsletter
Co-Chair Comm Team
Ray Winship Facebook
Co-Chair Comm Team

Evening Sandwich Program

ESP Board

Mali Bailey, Director
Larry Dickey
Charlie Morrill, Treasurer
Sue Morrill, President
Ray & Connie Winship

Facebook

Karen Kusiak
Ray Winship

Fellowship/Membership Committee

Bill Barnett
Joy Barnett
Jan Fichuk
Rachel Marsh Sachs, co-chair
Kathy McKay, co-chair
Dennis Perkins
Ray Winship

Finance Committee

Peter Burgher
Mark Jose
Margrit Thomas
Dave Wynne

Housekeeping

Gina Boudreau, Housekeeper
Mali Bailey, Director

Interfaith Council

Sue Morrill

Investment Management

Peter Burgher, Chair
Mark Jose
Jon Rogers

MUUSAN

[Maine Universalist Unitarian
State Advocacy Network]
Karen Kusiak
Dick Thomas

Nominating Committee.

Peter Burgher
Karen Kusiak
Margrit Thomas, Chair

Organists

Anna Beth Rynders, Lead Organist
Beth Schiller
Anne Marie Thibodeau

Worship Committee

Dear members and friends of UUC-Waterville!

The Worship Committee is delighted about our schedule of November services. While our services are still online, we can cast a wide net for guest ministers and speakers. We are proud to announce that Katie Covey, UU RE author and consultant, will be our guest speaker on November 1. Katie will be joining us from Colorado and will be leading a worship service of remembrance for those who have died. On November 22, we will have a combined worship service with Rev. Pam Barz and the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of Scituate, MA. If not for our online format, we might not have had the opportunity for Katie Covey and Rev. Pam Barz to lead our worship.

We are looking for volunteers to be Zoom operators during our worship services and to host our virtual Coffee Hours. If you have attended a Zoom worship service, you likely have the Zoom skills to be a Zoom operator or host virtual Coffee Hour, or you could learn how to do it easily. If you are interested in being a Zoom operator or virtual Coffee Hour host, please contact the Worship Committee at uuworshipcommittee@gmail.com.

Members and friends often ask when we will be able to return to in-person worship. This is on our minds, too, and we look forward to returning to in-person worship as soon as possible. The Worship Committee relies on guidance from our church's Board about our worship service format. The Board has decided on virtual worship through December 2020 and it will provide guidance to the Worship Committee about the worship service format when we get closer to 2021.

Take care, and stay safe and healthy during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Luke Brooks-Shesler

Worship Committee Chair

uuworshipcommittee@gmail.com

Evening Sandwich Program

The ESP Board met by Zoom Saturday, October 18, 2020. We are excited that, with the encouragement and offers of help from the Interfaith Council, ESP will re-open on November 3, 2020. The plan is to start slowly, on a limited basis. Initially, ESP will be open two days a week on a "grab and go" set-up. Safety for all involved is our primary focus. We balance this concern with the information that the number of hungry folks is growing due to closing of Sacred Heart's noontime meal service and the lack of the hoped-for second stimulus package. The Board is working out the kinks in this new plan and will keep you informed through mid-week blasts and Sunday announcements. *Sue Morrill*, ESP Board President

First Sunday Donation

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Maine

Two of Our Own Achieve Ambitious Goals

Bill Barnett: Waterville to Sidney: 26.2 miles

On Sunday the 11th, I completed a virtual version of the [Maine Marathon](#). The annual event that normally takes place in Portland every October was made into a virtual event for obvious health reasons. I ran and completed a 26.2-mile course that I mapped out around Waterville and Sidney. Joy, my loving wife, supported me throughout the run with encouragement and sustenance. Without her, I could not have done it. I also used an app called Racejoy that allowed family and friends to follow and send cheers. So it wasn't like I was completely alone. It was a beautiful morning for a run. I finished in good shape without any injuries in a better-than-expected time.

Completing a marathon has been a goal of mine for the last five or so years. I made sure this year to train very carefully to avoid overuse injuries. All monies from the entry fees go to charities like Teens to Trails. I feel well blessed to be able to support this charity and my own well being simultaneously. Thanks to everyone who gave kudos on FB. [Bill Barnett](#)

Planned Giving

Jon Rogers

Point NewsletterConnie Winship, Editor
Sarah Webster, Proofreader
Marilyn Wheeler, Postal Clerk**Property & Grounds**Trip Gander: Chair
Dennis Perkins
Jerry Saint Amand
Ed Spear**Religious Education**

Margrit Thomas, Director

Small Group MinistryPeter Burgher
Mark Jose**Stewardship Committee**Peter Burgher
Sarah Michaud
Dennis Perkins**UU Singers and Musicians**Maili Bailey
Bill Barnett
Nancy Brooks
Jan Fichuk
Sally Harwood
Mark Jose
Joanna Linden
Iver Lofving
Anna Beth Rynders
Beth Schiller
Linda Seekins
Olga Shabunya
Dick Thomas
Margrit Thomas
Harry Vayo: Director
Marilyn Wheeler
Ray Winship
Linda Woods
Nancy Wynne**Website**Luke Brooks-Shesler
Beth Schiller, Webmaster
Rurik Spence, IT Administrator
Connie Winship
Ray Winship**Welcoming Congregation****Worship Committee**Brooks-Shesler, Chair
Jim Evans
Caroline Gander
Karen Kusiak
Jan Mathieu
Sarah Michaud
Dennis Perkins
Connie Winship
Ray Winship**Steve Ball: Madawaska to Kittery: 430 miles**

After waiting to see if conditions would change enough to safely allow for a ride from Belfast, Maine to Anacortes, Washington, I decided in May that my original plan would need to be changed. My riding buddy John Benziger and I decided a ride within Maine would make for a nice alternative. We developed a route from Madawaska to Kittery.

With the help of our wives, Mary Benziger and Allane, we arrived in Madawaska on August 16. Our trip began the next day and would take us through Caribou, Houlton, Lincoln, Orono, Belfast, Bath, Portland and Kittery, as well as many other smaller and scenic towns.

As with every adventure, we had our interesting moments along the way. We rode in torrential downpours (Caribou to Houlton) and scorching heat (York) and we successfully avoided an unanticipated COVID outbreak in Millinocket. I saw parts of the state that I had not seen or taken notice of before. It was exciting and I would do it again!

As homogenous as Maine's population is sometimes described in the media, I was struck at how brilliantly diverse we really are; diverse in landscape, culture, livelihoods, accents and people. The traditions and architecture of Aroostook County are not at all similar to those of Central or Southern Maine. Acadian culture, part-French, part-Canadian, part-Aroostook, is a foundational part of life in northern Maine. And the Gulf of Maine, as fragile as it is, is truly essential to so much of life, culture and society in Southern Maine.

We arrived in Kittery on August 24. John and I rode 430 miles in the eight days. While it was not as long or grand a trip as our original plan to cross the country might have been, I would not trade this experience for anything. [Steve Ball](#)

Church Directory Information Requested

The "Members and Friends" church directory, last produced in 2018, is currently being updated. If you are new to the church or have had a change of email address, mailing address, preferred phone(s), or family composition in the last year or two, please send your current information to the Administrative Director, Beth Schiller at uuwvtladm@gmail.com or to the mailing address below. Please also let her know if you would like any information withheld. The directory is only made available to members and friends. It is not a public document. Thank you!

Beth Schiller, Administrative Director
Universalist Unitarian Church of Waterville
PO Box 435, Waterville, ME 04903

Interfaith Council

Due to technical difficulties, I joined the Interfaith Council Zoom meeting late. The discussion I missed was concerning the growing numbers of hungry due to the closing of Sacred Heart's noontime meal and the absence of a second stimulus package. The Council offered help and volunteers and a willingness to "think out of the box" to re-open ESP. This was so encouraging and I brought the offer to the ESP board. (see page two, "Evening Sandwich Program)" for particulars.

Pleasant Street Methodist Church announced it is still searching for a part-time administrative secretary/treasurer and will have a pie sale in November. Their services alternate between Zoom and in person. Their attendance is half of what it was before COVID.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church has an outdoor and a Facebook Live service. They are not sure what will occur in cold weather as their sanctuary is small.

Colby is doing very well and plans to have both their Jan Plan and Spring session.

The Coven is struggling, having lost their meeting place due to COVID. Kim Schrader, the minister in Winslow and Benton Falls, offered her farm for outdoor services. They will now consider streaming on Facebook.

Next meeting will introduce the Waterville Area Soup Kitchen. *Sue Morrill*

**Worship Committee:
Sub-Committees**

I. Social Justice

Bill Barnett
Joy Barnett
Iver Lofving
Audrey McGee
Dick Thomas
Connie Winship
Ray Winship, Chair

II. Small Group Ministry

Luke Brooks-Shesler
Peter Burgher, Chair
Mark Jose
Dick Thomas

**III. Spiritual Journeys/
Spiritual Healing**

Marian Flaherty
Mary Matson
Sarah Michaud, Chair
Deb Stinneford
Linda Woods
Nancy Wynne

IV. Principles/Faith Traditions

Kathy McKay
Dennis Perkins, Chair
Jon Rogers

Protocol for Indoor Meetings at Church: 2020-2021

When weather or other circumstances preclude church groups from meeting outdoors, it is permissible to meet at the church during the COVID-19 pandemic using the following protocol. This protocol is not intended to discourage on-site meetings, but to ensure the health and safety of all attendees. Any groups that are meeting regularly in the church should notify the Administrative Director (uuwvtvladm@gmail.com) who maintains the Church Calendar.

- **10-person maximum:** Attendance is limited to 10 or fewer. Additional participants might be included via Zoom or FaceTime using equipment (laptop, tablet, smartphone) provided by members of the group. WiFi instructions are posted on the bulletin board in Averill Parlors.
- **Averill Parlors only:** Meetings are confined to Averill Parlors (no use of the Sanctuary).
- **Face coverings/masks:** Attendees must wear multi-layer face masks (made of cloth or other filtering material) that cover nose and mouth. Neck gaiters, bandanas and plastic shields alone are not effective in reducing transmission.
- **Physical distancing:** Attendees should maintain a distance from each other of at least **six feet**.
- **No food/eating:** Attendees should refrain from bringing or eating food. Beverages should be consumed by moving (not removing) masks.
- **Contact Tracing:** A designated leader/contact must keep a record of **attendance**, including the **name** and **phone** number of each attendee and the **date** of the meeting in case contact tracing becomes necessary.
- **Hygiene, Disinfecting:** Attendees should practice good hand hygiene with handwashing and/or hand sanitizing. In addition, surfaces contacted by attendees, especially in the bathrooms or kitchen, should be disinfected before and after use, making use of the sanitizing sprays or wipes provided.
- **Thermostat(s):** If the room temperature is adjusted, it should be set back to the default setting when the meeting is over.
- **Locking Up:** As always, the last person to leave the building should make sure the lights are off and the door is locked.

Thank you and be well,
Board of Trustees/ UU Church of Waterville / October 15, 2020

Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR)

Transgender Day of Remembrance, November 20, memorializes those murdered as a result of transphobia and brings attention to continued violence against transgender people. Memorials typically include a reading of the names of those killed in the past year. FMI about transgender, [click here](#)

Blue Christmas Service

I will be the worship leader for a “Blue Christmas” service on 12/20/20. Blue Christmas refers to the song that says, “I’ll have a Blue Christmas without you.” It is a service to acknowledge that the December holidays are not all happiness and joy, and for many people, grief about recent and even past losses are a part of the holidays. If you have a short story about grief/loss during the holidays that you would like to share, in person or through another reader, please let me know. I am also interested in readings you might have to offer. Please feel free to contact me, Mark Jose, at markjose@roadrunner.com or by phone or text at 207-314-6184. Thank you.

November 1 Service

Katie Covey, UU RE author and consultant, is our guest minister. The topic of her service is *A Service of Remembrance: Remembering Those Who Have Died*. Please email the worship committee (uuworshipcommittee@gmail.com) the names of any members, friends, or people who are important to you and/or the congregation who have died over the past year. During the service, you are invited to share a photo or object by which you remember them.

Arts and Crafts

As of the writing of this report, no attendees of the weekly Arts and Crafts gang meetings in Halifax Park have suffered frostbite of fingers bravely exposed to the elements as they create works of beauty and usefulness. We have been rained out once, but our intrepid spirit lets us hope the weather will allow us to continue our meetings for many weeks to come. As we knit and/or stitch, we not only make things, we chat, and, the church community will be happy to learn, have solved many of the world’s problems. Anyone who would like to join us from noon to 2 p.m. on Wednesdays will be most kindly welcomed. *Ellie Duhamel*

Volunteer(s) needed for UU Technology Help

The Worship Committee is looking for someone, or a team of people, to provide technology help to our congregation. The most common technology issues have to do with Zoom. The volunteer(s) for this role must have a basic knowledge of Zoom, a Gmail email address (which we will link to uutechnologyhelp@gmail.com) and a cell phone number (which we will link to the UU Technology Help number, 802-676-0504, which is a Google Voice number). If you are interested in this role, please contact Luke Brooks-Shesler at uuworshipcommittee@gmail.com. If you would like help using Zoom, contact [Karen Kusiak](#) or [Ray Winship](#) and they will get you set up.

Updated Log-in Information to Join Zoom

1. To join by Zoom (from computer, tablet, or smart phone), click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88049341762?pwd=bzZTMjUwQjcrMDFzdW05VWtqYVBJQT09>

2. To join from any phone (for audio only), dial 312-626-6799.

Meeting ID: 880 4934 1762 **Passcode:** 54321 (these may be needed for both Zoom and phone connections, depending on your set-up)

Virtual Coffeehouse

Join your church friends for a virtual Coffeehouse each Thursday evening from 6:30 – 8 p.m. Come to sing, play music, read a poem, do a comedy routine, or just to listen and enjoy.

You can join by clicking on this link: <https://zoom.us/j/473083251>. If you are using a phone, dial 1-313-626-6799, then enter meeting ID 473 083 251. If you would like to perform, email Harry Vayo at vayowoods@live.com.

Zoom Coffee Hour

Come visit us “after church” when the Worship Committee hosts a Zoom coffee hour on Sundays at 11. This is the time when we “greet our neighbors” and share our Joys and Concerns. The session begins as a large-group discussion where folks can get the big picture of what is happening in each other’s lives. After a few minutes, the large group is split into smaller groups so participants can have more in-depth conversations.

The details for connecting to the Zoom meeting that includes both the church service and the coffee hour which follows are posted on the church website, included in the Mid-Week Update, and sent to the all-church email list each week.

Please remember that even if you cannot Zoom, you can join the chat (audio only) from any phone. The service connection information will include phone numbers for you to use.

Lastly, if you would like help using Zoom, contact [Karen Kusiak](#) or [Ray Winship](#) and they will get you set up. *Connie Winship*

Services at a Glance

November 1 First Sunday offering: Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Mid-Maine.
Principle #2: Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations
Worship Associate: Caroline Gander.
Worship Leader: Katie Covey, UU Religious Education author and consultant.

A Service of Remembrance: Remembering Those Who Have Died

November 1 is traditionally All Souls Day in Christian tradition, and close to Samhain in Wiccan tradition. For UUs, it can be a time of remembering those who have died. We aspire to compassion in our Second Principle, and seek the healing of sharing together.

You are invited to share the name of a deceased beloved and share a photo or object by which you remember them in this Service of Remembrance. We remember our beloveds together, sharing our grief and loss, so we may know we are not alone.

November 8 Worship Associate: Ray Winship
Worship Leader: Rev. Nancee Campbell

Universalism for Today

With our daily lives turned topsy-turvy, this service will look at how the solid roots of Universalism can help us through this difficult time.

November 15 Principle #3: Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.
Worship Associate: Caroline Gander
Worship Leader: Rev. Sarah Gillespie

A Psalm for 2020.

As we walk through the valley of the shadow of COVID, what do we fear? What do we hope? Come together to explore Psalm 23 and what our faith tells us about times such as these.

November 22 Joint Service with the Scituate, MA Unitarian Universalist congregation.
UU Principle # 4: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
Worship Associate: Luke Brooks-Shesler
Worship Leader: Rev. Pam Barz

Gratitude for the Stories of our Lives

On this Sunday before Thanksgiving, we reflect on how the Thanksgiving story has changed, as have many of the stories of our lives. In this combined worship service with the Universalist Unitarian Church of Waterville, Maine and the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of Scituate, Massachusetts, we reflect on the stories of our lives, our church, and our nation.

November 29 UU Principle #4: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
Worship Associate: Sarah Michaud
Worship Leader: Luke Brooks-Shesler

Lighting of the First Advent Candle: Faith

Spiritual Autobiographies: Spiritual Experiences in Adulthood

In this participative worship service, we will explore spiritual experiences in adulthood and relate them to our present-day experiences during the pandemic. We will complete a brief pencil-and-paper exercise (so please have a pencil and paper handy) and we will recount spiritual experiences we have had as adults.

November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>First Sunday Donation: Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Maine</p> <p>10:00 Online Service Rev Katie Covey <i>A Service of Remembering: Remembering Those who Have Died</i></p> <p>11:00 - 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour</p>	2	<p>3</p> <p>11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group</p> <p>Contact Carolyn MacRae (carolynmacrae@gmail.com) for sign-in instructions</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12:00 – 2:00 Arts and Crafts Group</p> <p>Contact Ellie Duhamel duhamellie@gmail.com</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30 – 11:00 Men’s Coffee</p> <p>6:30 – 8:00 Zoom Coffeehouse</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10:00 – 12:00 Women’s Group</p> <p>Contact Kit Alexander for more information kita0847@roadrunner.com</p>	7
<p>8</p> <p>10:00 Online Service Rev. Nancee Campbell <i>Universalism for Today</i></p> <p>11:00 - 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour</p>	9	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group</p> <p>Contact Carolyn MacRae (carolynmacrae@gmail.com) for sign-in instructions</p> <p>5:00 – 6:00 Worship Committee</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Veteran’s Day</p> <p>10:00 – 12:00 Small Group Ministry Mark Jose</p> <p>12:00 – 2:00 Arts and Crafts Group duhamellie@gmail.com</p> <p>5:30 – 7:00 Board of Trustees</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30 – 11:00 Men’s Coffee</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:00 – 12:00 Women’s Group</p> <p>Contact Kit Alexander for more information kita0847@roadrunner.com</p>	14
<p>15</p> <p>10:00 Online Service Rev. Sarah Gillespie <i>A Psalm for 2020</i></p> <p>11:00 - 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour</p>	16	<p>17</p> <p>11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group</p> <p>Contact Carolyn MacRae (carolynmacrae@gmail.com) for sign-in instructions</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12:00 – 2:00 Arts and Crafts Group duhamellie@gmail.com</p> <p>1:00 – 2:00 Small Group Ministry Peter Burgher</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30 – 11:00 Men’s Coffee</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Transgender Day of Remembrance</p> <p>10:00 – 12:00 Women’s Group Contact Kit Alexander for more information kita0847@roadrunner.com</p>	21
<p>22</p> <p>10:00 Online Service Rev. Pam Barz and Luke Brooks-Shesler</p> <p><i>Gratitude for the Stories of our Lives</i></p> <p>11:00 - 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour</p>	23	<p>24</p> <p>11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group</p> <p>Contact Carolyn MacRae (carolynmacrae@gmail.com) for sign-in instructions</p> <p>5:00 – 6:00 ESP Board</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12:00 – 2:00 Arts and Crafts Group duhamellie@gmail.com</p>	<p>26</p> 	<p>27</p> <p>10:00 – 12:00 Women’s Group</p> <p>Contact Kit Alexander for more information kita0847@roadrunner.com</p>	28
<p>29</p> <p>10:00 Online Service Luke Brooks-Shesler</p> <p><i>Spiritual Autobiographies: Spiritual Experiences in Adulthood</i></p> <p>First Sunday of Advent</p> <p>11:00 - 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour</p>	30	<p>31</p> <p>11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group</p> <p>Contact Carolyn MacRae (carolynmacrae@gmail.com) for sign-in instructions</p>				