October 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.

Dennis Perkins, President julep1027@yahoo.com Rurik Spence, Vice President rurik.spence@gmail.com 0 0

Beth Schiller, Administrative Director uuwtvladm@gmail.com Connie Winship, Point Editor cwinship@roadrunner.com

Church website: <u>http://uucwaterville.com</u> Follow us on Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/uucwtvl</u>

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 welcomed

To the Point

UU's 4th Principle is "a free and responsible search for truth and meaning." At various times in human history —perhaps in most times — science has been under attack both by religious authorities and authoritarian political regimes. In the former, it is the physical scientists whose credibility is challenged because their discoveries run counter to dogma. In the latter, it is the social scientists (including reputable news-gathering organizations) whose findings are undermined because they reveal unwanted truths about political authoritarians. That's why in every authoritarian regime, both the free press and the universities become first the objects of suspicion and ridicule, then later victims of coercion and control. Often, as in today's political climate, the truths of both physical (e.g. climate or COVID) and social (accurate gathering and reporting of political information) sciences are simultaneously ridiculed and undermined by those in authority who feel threatened by truth in any form. Principles are simply words until they are defended. We UUs are called upon to speak up loudly and often in defense of our 4th Principle. When we speak with our neighbors, when we vote with our ballots, even as we as individuals form our own silent thoughts about important matters, we must maintain our commitment to this free and responsible search for truth.

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Bookkeeper Katrina Goodrich

Board of Trustees and Officers

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

Collector Mark Jose Marilyn Wheeler

Communications Team Peter Burgher Photographer

Peter Burgher Beth Schiller: Mark Jose Karen Kusiak

Carolyn MacRae Charlie Morrill Sue Morrill Beth Schiller Rurik Spence

Sarah Webster

Ray Winship

Connie Winship

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Evening Sandwich Program

ESP Board

Maili Bailey: Director Larry Dickey Charlie Morrill: Treasurer Sue Morrill: President Ray & Connie Winship

Facebook Karen Kusiak

Ray Winship

Fellowship/Membership

Committee Bill Barrnett Joy Barrnett 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 Maili 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 to welcome you to fall services! We are proud to serve this congregation, and we are especially proud of the members and friends of this church who continue to gather for online worship. It is hard to believe that we switched to online worship over six months ago!

Our services have gone through quite a transition since our first online service on March 15, 2020. From that date until the end of June, we posted pre-recorded worship service videos to our website, <u>www.uucwaterville.com</u>. On July 5, 2020, we had our first live worship service on Zoom. Most of our July services were discussion-based where attendees shared their thoughts on that Sunday's topic. In August, we modified our live Zoom services so they followed our more traditional order of service. We are planning to continue with this live Zoom service format through the end of December.

Although we would prefer to worship in person, the geographic flexibility of the online services has opened up new possibilities. As long as we have an internet connection, we can join our services from anywhere. Friends and members who are located far away from Waterville can worship with us. Because we are not geographically limited, we have a bigger pool of potential ministers and speakers. For example, Rev. Pam Barz from First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of Scituate, MA invited us to join her congregation's worship on August 30.

As we prepare for the fall services, we would like to acknowledge three outgoing Worship Committee members: Peter Burgher, Bernadette LaCroix and Rock LaCroix. Peter, Bernie and Rock have been dedicated committee members who brought their personal touch to our worship, and whose thoughtfulness and generosity we will miss.

We are delighted to announce three new members of the Worship Committee: Caroline Gander, Jim Evans and Karen Kusiak. We are excited to work with them — and their contributions are already being felt. Thank you to all Worship Committee members — past, current and future — for their efforts toward meeting the spiritual needs of our congregation.

If you would like to be a Worship Associate or a Zoom operator on Sunday mornings, feel free to reach out to us at any time at <u>uuworshipcommittee@gmail.com</u>. Also feel free to invite friends and members — wherever they are located — to our online worship services.

Take care, and stay safe and healthy - and see you on Zoom!

Sincerely, Luke Brooks-Shesler

Fellowship!

~Community. Friendship. Togetherness. Understanding. Companionship. And FUN!~

In this time of social distancing, and especially now, heading into the winter months, we need each other. We need fellowship. It keeps us ticking. It lifts our spirits. It reminds us that we belong together.

The Tuesday Discussion Group, the Wednesday Arts & Crafts Group, the Thursday Men's Group, the Thursday Night Coffee House and the Friday Women's Group are five examples of us staying connected. These groups have continued to meet outside socially distanced, or together by Zoom. Look for details in the Midweek Update.

Let's expand on these. What would feel good to you right now? A church pen pal? A book group? Adult UU Religious Education? A walking group? Online Scrabble? Feel free to share your ideas with Kathy or Rachel, Fellowship Team chairs. kmckay52@gmail.com zone4color@gmail.com

Planned Giving Jon Rogers

Point Newsletter Connie 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: DRE

Small Group Ministry Peter Burgher Mark Jose

Stewardship Committee Peter Burgher Sarah Michaud Dennis Perkins

UU Singers and Musicians

Maili Bailey **Bill Barrnett** 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: Co-webmaster Administrator Connie Winship Ray Winship

Welcoming Congregation

Worship Committee

Brooks-Shesler: Co-chair Jim Evans Caroline Gander Karen Kusiak Jan Mathieu Sarah Michaud Dennis Perkins: Co-chair Connie Winship Ray Winship

Evening Sandwich Program

The Evening Sandwich Program is closed until further notice due to COVID-19. The ESP board will meet in mid-October to discuss plans for re-opening and volunteer safety. *Sue Morrill*, ESP President

Interfaith Council

The Interfaith Council met on Wednesday, September 9, 2020. The meeting was held at the new home of the United Church of Christ on the lower floor of The Elm. Half the Council met by Zoom and the rest met in person

Thanks to a grant request made by Reverend Mo, the Interfaith Resource Fund received \$3,000.00. This fund is dedicated to helping local people pay rent, get oil for heating and pay electricity bills.

Member churches discussed the various and creative ways they are celebrating Sunday services. The United Church of Christ has been worshipping in its new location in person and on Zoom. St. Mark's has an outdoor service at 9 a.m. and is looking at live streaming as the weather cools. The Pleasant Street Methodist Church is having its first indoor service. Those wishing to attend must make reservations. Then the next two services will return to outdoor or Zoom.

The Council bid farewell to Reverend Mark Wilson, who is leaving the United Church of Christ to become a settled minister in Vermont. Thank you and best wishes! *Sue Morrill*

Arts and Crafts

The Arts and Crafts Group, which began life as the Knitting Group, has been meeting in Averill Parlors for years. For a long time, the meeting day was Tuesday, and then, four-ish years ago, it moved to Wednesdays. When COVID-19 came to town in the middle of last March, we folded up our tent (well, actually, our quilting and knitting and counted cross-stitching and sketch pads and paint boxes...) and went home. Most of us continued our efforts at home, but missed our weekly gathering more and more as months passed. Clearly, it is way more fun to be crafty together.

In the middle of July, we decided to follow the excellent example of the Women's Group and began to meet in Halifax Park in Winslow. It has turned out to be great. We bring our own chairs and often something yummy to share. We've had garden-fresh cucumbers and blueberries, zucchini muffins with blueberries and nuts and chocolate chips, homemade Oreos, and more. The weather has been perfect. We sit in the cool, leafy shade and visit as we watch the Kennebec flow by, with ospreys and an occasional eagle flying over. The sketch books, knitting, cross-stitching and all those creative things have reappeared, as well as some good, old-fashioned mending.

All are welcome! If you would like to join us, that would be great; just look for a small group of chatting women sitting near the end of the paved walkway, busily creating works of art. Or not. We would love to see you. Probably we'll keep meeting in the park through the fall until icicles start forming on our toes.

We have been gathering on Wednesdays from 10 until about noon, but, to take advantage of the warmer part of the day and postpone icicle formation as long as possible, we have **changed our meeting time to noon to 2 p.m.**, still on Wednesday. Do join us! *Ellie Duhamel*

Property & Grounds

There's a lot of Property & Grounds work going on right now and it would be great to have some help, especially from some more experienced committee members. Are you interested in working with your hands for the betterment of the church? Have professional connections in the building and maintenance trades? If you're interested in helping with projects like bathroom renovations, outdoor building upkeep, painting and more, please contact Trip Gander at tripgander@gmail.com.

Worship Committee: Sub-Committees

I. Social Justice Bill Barrnett

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

Services at a Glance

October 4 Worship Associate: Kathy McKay Worship Leader: Rev. Al Boyce Maintaining Spiritual Balance as the Election Looms

October 11 Worship Leader: Sarah Seder Faith Rocket Service by Rev. Molly Housh Gordon *Take Heart* "If our fears are themselves compelling stories, then they most often have something to tell us about what we value, as all stories do. Our fears, then, are not something to shun or shut away, but rather, a powerful story about the true depths of our care."

October 18 Worship Leader: Maili Bailey *We've Come This Far: Thinking About Where We Came From* The congregation is invited to to email stories about their families origins to Maili at <u>mailibailey@yahoo.com</u> by October 10th so that she can read the compiled stories at the service.

October 25 Worship Associate: Sarah Michaud Worship Leader: Rev. Nancee Campbell *Carry Your Life More Gently* In these challenging times of the pandemic, we all need to reexamine what is comfortable for us these days.

Welcoming Congregation LGBTQ History Month

LGBTQ History Month is a month-long annual observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. It is observed during October to include National Coming Out Day on October 11.

National Coming Out Day: October 11

National Coming Out Day (NCOD) is an internationally observed civil awareness day celebrating individuals who publicly identify as a gender or sexual minority. The day is observed annually by members of the LGBTQ community and allies on October 11. The date of October 11 was chosen because it was the anniversary of the 1987 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

Holiday Fair

We are remembering the years of good energy, jokes and stories, not to mention successful FUNdraising, and the famous Cookie Walk!

Sadly we will have to wait until 2021 to share those fun Fair experiences with each other again. Following the UUA and our own church guidelines, there will be no Holiday Fair this year.

Co-chairs, Rachel Marsh-Sachs, Kathy McKay & Linda Lee

How to Contact Officers and Trustees

Officers	Trustees			
President: Dennis Perkins	Elyse Apantaku			
julep1027@yahoo.com	emapantaku@gmail.com			
Vice President: Rurik Spence	Katie Clifford			
rurik.spence@gmail.com	clifford.katiemae@gmail.com			
Treasurer: Allane Ball	Trip Gander			
allaneball@gmail.com	tripgander@gmail.com			
Clerk: Sarah Seder	Sally Harwood			
sseder@roadrunner.com	harwood8350@roadrunner.com			
Collector: Marilyn Wheeler	Jon Rogers			
mwhee64@gmail.com	sebasticook53@gmail.com			
	Beth Schiller			
	schillb@colby.edu			

October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:30 – 11:00 Men's Coffee	2 10:00 – 12:00 Women's Group Contact Kit Alexander for more information <u>kita0847@roadrunne</u> <u>r.com</u>	3
4 10:00 Online Service Rev. Al Boyce <i>Maintaining Spiritual Balance</i> <i>as the Election Looms</i> 11:00 - 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour	5	6 11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group Contact Carolyn MacRae (carolynrmacrae@gmail.com) for sign-in instructions	7 12:00 – 2:00 Arts and Crafts Group	8 9:30 – 11:00 Men's Coffee	9 10:00 – 12:00 Women's Group Contact Kit Alexander for more information <u>kita0847@roadrunne</u> <u>r.com</u>	10
11 10:00 Online Service Faith Rocket Service Sarah Seder <i>Take Heart</i> by Rev. Molly Housh Gordon 11:00 - 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour NATIONAL COMING OUT	12	13 11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group Contact Carolyn MacRae (carolynrmacrae@gmail.com) for sign-in instructions 5:00 – 6:00 Worship Committee	14 12:00 – 2:00 Arts and Crafts Group 10:00 – 12:00 Small Group Ministry Mark Jose 5:30 – 7:00 Board of Trustees	15 9:30 – 11:00 Men's Coffee	16 10:00 – 12:00 Women's Group Contact Kit Alexander for more information <u>kita0847@roadrunne</u> <u>r.com</u>	17
18 10:00 Online Service Maili Bailey We've Come This Far: Thinking about where we came from 11:00 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour	19	20 11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group Contact Carolyn MacRae (carolynrmacrae@gmail.com) for sign-in instructions	21 12:00 – 2:00 Arts and Crafts Group	22 9:30 – 11:00 Men's Coffee	23 10:00 – 12:00 Women's Group Contact Kit Alexander for more information <u>kita0847@roadrunne</u> <u>r.com</u>	24
25 10:00 Online Service Rev. Nancee Campbell <i>Carry your life more gently</i> 11:00 - 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour	26	27 11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group Contact Carolyn MacRae (carolynrmacrae@gmail.com) for sign-in instructions	28 12:00 – 2:00 Arts and Crafts Group	29	30	31