

Sanford UU Church 5 Lebanon Street Sanford, ME 04073

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Like us on Facebook Minister: Rev. Steve Cook

Religious Education: Mesha and

Ryan Quinn

Choir Director: Rev. Charles Grindle

Pianist: Ruth Leipold

Newsletter Editor: Mona Ouellette Church Historian: Helen Kane Maintenance/Sexton: Bill Ouellette

# Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church UU NOTES Volume XLIII July 5, 2018, Issue 1

### **UUA PRINCIPLES**

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- \* The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
- \* Justice equity, and compassion in human relations.
- \* Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.
- \* A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.
- \* The right of conscience and the use of democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.
- \* The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.
- \* Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

(Adopted by the 1984 and 1985 General Assemblies)

# Summer Worship Services are Held in the Parlor or Goodall Hall at 9:30am Everyone is Welcome!

**July 8th** *Dismantling White Supremacy* - The service will be led by Karen Nelson. Based on materials related to the Northern New England District of UUA meetings on this topic in Nashua, NH, in April, this service will touch only briefly on what white supremacy is. We will devote more time to how complex the challenges are in <u>actually doing</u> anything about it.

July 15th Poetry Breakfast - The service will be led by Jan Sacco

July 22nd TBD

**July 29th** *TBD* - The service will be led by Bob Ortiz



### **Summer Services 2018**

# Sign-Up Sheet is located in the Parlor

# Join us for Summer Services on Sundays at 9:30am Through September 2nd

# Quality services in an informal setting

### **Reminders about Summer Services:**

Held in Goodall Hall
There may be music, there may not
Lay or Minister led services
No snacks following worship service
No RE classes - No child care

### **Summer Service Schedule:**

July 8th Dismantling White Supremacy Karen Nelson
Based on materials related to the Northern New England District of UUA meetings on this topic in Nashua, NH, in April, this service will touch only briefly on what white supremacy is. We will devote more time to how complex the challenges are in actually doing anything about it.

July	y 15th	Poetry Breakfast	Jan Sacco

July 22nd

July 29th TBD Bob Ortiz

August 5th TBD David Larrabee

August 12th TBD Diane Whiteside-Peck

August 19th All Things Centennial Helen Kane

August 26th Award Winning Service Clare Fortune Lad

September 2nd

Contacts: Judi Reis and Evelyn LaBree

# **Thoughts From the President**

Hello, Church Family! I hope all of you have found cool refuge during this very hot and humid week! I've learned lately that there is confusion about what time services will begin when we resume in the Fall, so here is a "timeline" of sorts to explain the progression of thoughts on the subject:

During Candidating Week, Shay proposed the idea of her being in the pulpits of both churches three Sundays per month. This would mean that services at one church would begin at 9:00, and the other at 11:00.

Both Boards discussed and tentatively agreed at their May meetings to adopt this new start schedule; UUCSB agreed to 9:00, and SUUC to 11:00, while informally polling congregants' reactions.

Because merely one hour between services would not give our new Minister enough time to drive safely and calmly from one church to the other, an 11:30 start time for SUUC was suggested at our June Board meeting.

At the Ferry Beach Park picnic, I asked attendees how they felt about the new start times, and discovered that many were unhappy with the changes. I learned a good lesson here, and I should not have assumed that the congregation's desires could be determined in an informal way. The week following the picnic, many emails and calls were made between Niki, Shay, the Board members, and I, including the idea of having the congregations vote on several options regarding service start times.

Now we have arrived at a conclusive decision: There will be no changes to service start times or pulpit times until after Shay arrives and we have time to talk. As soon as possible, perhaps by means of a Special Congregational Meeting, we will decide how best to fulfill both Shay's needs and the needs of the congregations. Please keep in mind, though, that Shay's contract calls for her to be in the pulpit three Sundays per month, and as we resume formal services, Shay will be giving sermons (as Reverends Gabrielson and Cook did) twice a month in one church, and twice a month at the other, which does not meet the contract specifications.

One final reminder: If you have any questions about this, or any other issue, PLEASE TALK TO YOUR BOARD LIAISONS (Patty, Judi, or Cheryl) OR ANY BOARD MEMBER! Good communication is so important to a healthy church family. Thanks so much for all you do, and have a safe and happy summer! ~Diane

### **Administrative Office**

The office is operating on reduced summer hours of Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 7:00am to noon.

### **CLYNK**

The last week of June the remainder of CLYNK money was picked up for this Fiscal Year. Last year we raised \$234.92 and this year our total is \$301.38, which is \$66.46 more than last year! Money from this endeavor is applied to our fundraising line. Thank you to all who participate!

CLYNK bags are located in Goodall Hall for your convenience.

# Pride Picnic at Gowen Park on June 2nd and "Lollipop Moments" RE Service on June 3rd

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"...be the change you wish to see in the world." Gandhi
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Issue #1



# **July 2018**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
I Summer worship 9:30am led by Leonard Brooks	2	3	4 4th of July holiday	5 Newsletter Day	6	7
	Music lessons 4:30pm-7:30pm in Sanctuary	MTN acception in	Project Com. 6:30pm -8:30pm in Goodall Hall			
AA in Vestry 5:00pm to 6:15pm	MUUSAN and MPA in Goodall Hall 5:00pm-8:00pm	MTN meeting in Parlor and GH 6:00pm	Narcotics Anon. in Vestry 7:30pm to 9:00pm	VNM Vestry 5:00pm	AA Vestry 6:00pm-7:00pm	
8 Summer worship 9:30am led by Karen Nelson	9 Music lessons 4:30pm-7:30pm in Sanctuary	10	11 Music lessons 9:00am-11:00am in Sanctuary	12	13	14 Church Work Party 8:00ish to noo
AA in Vestry 5:00pm to 6:15pm	MUUSAN and MPA in Goodall Hall 5:00pm-8:00pm		Narcotics Anon. in Vestry 7:30pm to 9:00pm	VNM Vestry 5:00pm	AA Vestry 6:00pm-7:00pm	
15 Summer worship 9:30am led by Jan Sacco	16	17	18 Music lessons 9:00am-11:00am in Sanctuary	19	20 CC sets up	21 CC Open 10:00am 1:30pm
	Music lessons 4:30pm-7:30pm in Sanctuary	MTN	Project Com. 6:30pm -8:30pm in Goodall hall	V NM Vestry 5:00pm		
AA in Vestry 5:00pm to 6:15pm	MUUSAN and MPA in Goodall Hall 5:00pm-8:00pm	MTN meeting in Parlor 6:00pm	Narcotics Anon. in Vestry 7:30pm to 9:00pm		AA Vestry 6:00pm-7:00pm	
22 Summer worship 9:30am	23 Music lessons 4:30pm-7:30pm in Sanctuary	24	25 Music lessons 9:00am-11:00am in Sanctuary	26	27	28
AA in Vestry 5:00pm to 6:15pm	MUUSAN and MPA in Goodall Hall 5:00pm-8:00pm		Narcotics Anon. in Vestry 7:30pm to 9:00pm	VNM Vestry 5:00pm	AA Vestry 6:00pm-7:00pm	
29 Summer worship 9:30am led by Bob Ortiz	30	31				
	Music lessons 4:30pm-7:30pm in Sanctuary					
AA in Vestry 5:00pm to 6:15pm	MUUSAN and MPA in Goodall Hall 5:00pm-8:00pm					

# **SUUC Centennial Update #4**

# The People of the Windows - One Hundred Years On

In the Western tradition, the windows of a church have served many purposes, from the merely utilitarian—let in some light—to the didactic—teaching aids for a largely illiterate population to illustrate stories of the faith—to the purely artistic—lovely images from the representational to the abstract—and to the memorial—windows in memory and honor of worthy figures from the past.

When I first saw your windows, at a Northeast District gathering in the late Nineties, I thought, "What an interesting and distinctive variation on the theme of church windows!" I loved the subtly tinted, clear glass and architectural motif that lent an understated dignity to your sanctuary and did not compete with the glorious, three-window array so effectively commanding the apse. Now, having had the privilege of leading worship in your church as well as being afforded the opportunity to contemplate the windows at leisure, in different seasons and hours of the day and night, I appreciate them even more.

I have led worship in sanctuaries with superb stained glass windows that let in the light but not the view; that is, their colors, images and patterns arrested the eye at the window itself. The intention of the window was to create a small world within the sanctuary, separate and apart from the outside world. In the dynamics of religious life, this inward turning can often be just what we need. I have also led worship in sanctuaries with completely clear windows that let in not only the light but the view; that is, the world outside the church's doors, the larger world to which the dynamic of the religious life will call us in its turn. Now certainly, we can attend to the outside world even within spaces whose windows encourage us to turn inward; we can attend to the inside world even within spaces whose windows encourage us to turn outward. Such is the rhythm of a full life; religion is just one part of who we are and what we do.

However, I have contemplated on just how nicely the unique windows of the Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church encourage and facilitate this turning from one pole of the religious life to the other. Your windows do not confine the eyes to the vision of the artisan nor just to what is happening with the sanctuary. Even while softening the presence of the world, your windows allow it entry, encouraging you never to forget that the church is situated not just anywhere but here, in Sanford, ME. Your institutional life is centered in this specific community, which, even as it supports your presence also needs your service and leadership to bring it to a better place. At the same time, the outside world is viewed through the scrim of the spiritual commitments that guide your institutional public life and sustain your personal spiritual life. You're reminded that you're not just another meliorative organization, doing good things in the community, but a church whose good works grow out of a particular faith tradition, Unitarian Universalism.

Moreover, you're also reminded that any church is both a gift from the past and a legacy for the future. I sometimes say in announcing the time of offering: "This community exists today because those who came before us had a dream and a vision. This community exists today because those who came before us lived a life larger than their own. It is for us to keep faith with them; it is for us to keep faith with our children and the others who will someday speak of those who came before."

The names of the "People of the Windows" are there before you every Sunday. They speak of their own gifts and legacy, but each of them doubtless stands for many others who, over the century that you have been in existence, worked and contributed to make the Sanford Unitarian, and now Unitarian Universalist Church a house of faith and joy, a house of service and transcendent purpose. It is an inspiring legacy and a worthy vision for your future. With the blessing of the Holy, may it long be so.

The Reverend Stephen Cook Interim Minister 2016-2018

# **SUUC Centennial Update #5**

# White Sunlight

Clare Fortune-Lad

It is 2012. My boyfriend Kyle's Boston-based a capella group is performing in the Sanford UU Church Sanctuary for an adoring crowd. His solo, "Hey Jealousy" by the Gin Blossoms is just starting its first chorus: "Tomorrow we can drive around this town/ let the cops chase us around..." and right on cue, sirens start blaring on Main Street, making everyone laugh. But the show must go on: "...The past is gone/ but something might be found to take its place."

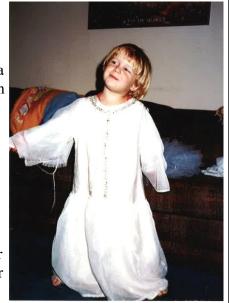
It is 2018. The past is gone but something might be found to take its place. SUUC isn't part of my day-to-day life anymore. But what I learned there is that the divine is everywhere, and you don't have to be in one certain old building on Lebanon and Main to connect with her. Now, I'm the Director of Religious Education at an old brick building on Kenoza and Main at the Universalist Unitarian Church of Haverhill, Massachusetts. When I tell people about my work, I tell people that they can't imagine the joy and love that one building encapsulates. But I know you can imagine it, because you've lived it.

It is 1991. My parents want me to feel free and unencumbered. They dress me in play clothes for daycare during the week so that I can run around without having to worry about getting anything dirty or sitting in a "ladylike"

way. On weekends, I wear the same, because there's exploring to do in my yard and on the banks of its neighboring cranberry bog. But one day, I confront them. If I can't wear a dress at home or to daycare, where *can* I wear a dress?

The answer seems to be downtown at a church they think we should try out. It's a magical place full of white sunlight. I get to stand on the pews during hymns with my best friend Lauren, twirling our dresses to the music. No one yells at us for blocking their view. I like when we play basketball in Good Old Hall during Coffee Hour, too. I really like when we get to sit on the rug with the other kids, and a boy named Nevin is even smart enough to know where Uzbekistan is! As far as places to wear a dress go, I tell myself, this will do.

Soon, it is 1993. Hillary asks us to draw what God looks like to us, saying there are no right or wrong answers in RE. I draw a woman who looks like my mummy, stretched across the sky in a light blue dress with cloud patterns all over it. "God is always there," I tell the class. "Even if you can't see her." No one ever told me this, so I'm not sure why I just *know* it's true. But I do.



It is 2000. On Sunday nights I go to Our Whole Lives and giggle – a lot. This is by far the weirdest thing my parents have ever asked me to do. I can't imagine having to learn all this stuff with kids at my school. Church kids are way calmer and nicer. Maybe because of the covenant thing? For years to come, my friends will continue to come to me with questions about things they need to know from "that church sex ed thing I did." None of what they will ask was communicated in our school's health class.

It is 2002. Tenth grade makes me want to hide under a rock and never come out. I get to church early and sit in a circle with our small youth group, lighting the chalice and talking about our weeks. We can talk and cry and no one tries to fix it or stop our tears. Paul Boothby preaches about living the questions themselves, and not rushing to answers, a la Rilke. I write it down in my journal and I never stop thinking about this reframe.

# **SUUC Centennial Update #5 Continued**

# White Sunlight

It is 2009. My post-college plans didn't really work out. I'm living with my parents and phonebanking at church for Marriage Equality. Folks from all over the country are fighting the good fight by my side in Good Old Hall. In the end, Maine does not yet vote to stand on the side of love.

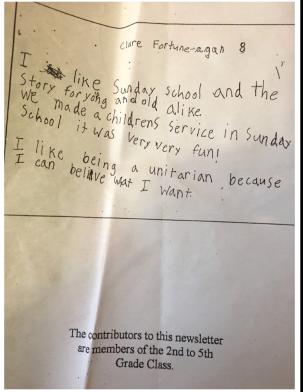
But we do it all again in 2012 – every Tuesday night in the Parlor from February to November. On the night of Obama's reelection, Sanford does the right thing by 300 votes. Maine follows Sanford. As goes Maine, so goes the nation, although not for three more years (the same summer Reverend Sue marries a capella guy and I in Lyman). It's the same year I'm teaching Our Whole Lives to the Junior Youth with Tom from Portland. They already live in a more just world than the one I had to be an 8<sup>th</sup> grader in, but there's a long way to go. My weekends teaching this life-affirming curriculum give me so much hope. It's a hope I bring to my weekdays working at Caring Unlimited, and I carry it today, still.

It is 2016. I put on my interview clothes and walk up the ramp to the Ladies Parlor at UU Haverhill. Reverend Frank shows me the sanctuary and it smells like a library at Dartmouth (my favorite thing to smell). While I'm talking about myself, my new friends around the table smile and nod and really mean it. They laugh at my nervous jokes. I can already tell that I love them - that I'm home.

The Haverhill kids like to play "let's pretend it's dark out and we're outside looking at the stars." Their caregivers want them to hear all the stories and drink in all the wonder that is our faith. They cook for the hungry and worry about the size of the parking lot. A few folks were friends with Maurice when he lived in the Bay State. I meet a woman a few years older than me who can relate to my story of being twelve and trying to answer his questions

about how to get the economy going again.

We collect water in September, light candles on Christmas Eve, and share flowers on Father's Day. A couple reminds me of Judi and Bev and I instantly attach myself to them. Everyone wants to know Janie's secret bread recipe, because I bring it to every potluck, so I donate a workshop to the auction. I miss Mona and Bill's humungous smiles, and quiet coffee hours with Grace and Ellie in their mom's office. I miss SUUC, but know that you're here with me, too. In my bones. In the gray hymnal and the unison affirmation. In the crayons and coffee cups and candles of joy and concern. These are my people. And, you are my people. God is always there, even if you can't see her.





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### Board 2018-2019

**President**: Diane Whiteside-Peck - June 30, 2019 **Vice President**: Karen Nelson - June 30, 2019 **Clerk**: Janie Waterhouse - June 30, 2020

**Financial Secretary**: Ginny Howe - June 30, 2020 **Treasurer**: Marcel Gagnon - June 30, 2019

Liaisons: Patty Kidder - June 30, 2019 - Judi Reis - June 30,

2020 - Cheryl Weymouth - June 30, 2021

DREs: Ryan and Mesha Quinn Church Leadership 2018-2019

Budget and Finance Chair:

Building and Grounds: Bob McCormick Caring Circle Chair: Gail Burnett

Choir: Charles Grindle Church Historian: Helen Kane

Corner Cupboard: Peg Sawyer, Judi Reis, Dee Ames, Helen

Kane

FIAT (Faith in Action Team): Patty Kidder

Finance Committee: Peg Sawyer, Pat Herrick, Ginny Howe,

Deb Folsom

Fundraising Coordinator: Jan Sacco Homesteaders: Jan Sacco, Melody Wood

Investment Management Committee: John Steffens, Peg

Sawyer, Art Dumas, Howard Dupee Members and Friends: Tonia Chase Music Committee Chair: Melody Wood

Nominating Committee: Lisa Huestis 2019, Vickie Bugado

2020, David Agan 2021

Religious Education Committee: Stewardship/Members: Helen Kane Women's Alliance: Nancy Farnham

Worship:

Worship Associates: Patty Kidder, Mesha Quinn, Evelyn LaBree, Tom Huber, Bev Brent, Judi Reis, Jan Sacco, Janie

Waterhouse, Vicky Bugado

### **Caring Circle**

Gail Lemley Burnett is in charge of our Caring Circle for providing help in case of illness, hospitalization, need for a ride to church, appointments, etc. Please call Gail at 324-1596 if you need assistance.

### **Minister's Hours**

Rev. Steve Cook is on vacation for the month of July. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact the office at 324-3191 or Diane Whiteside-Peck at 646-3780 or her cell at 337-0014. Rev. Shay MacKay will officially begin as our minister August 1st.

### **Administrative Office Hours**

Summer hours are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 7:00-12:00 - info@sanforduuchurch.org

### **Co-Directors of Religious Education**

Mesha and Ryan Quinn - dre@sanforduuchurch.org

# **Church and Community Groups**

AA Meetings: AA meetings are held every Sunday from 5:00pm-6:15pm and Fridays 6:00pm-7:00pm in Vestry

<u>Board Meetings:</u> Will resume in the fall - Save the date for the Board Retreat at Ferry Beach - August 25th

Book Group: Will resume in the fall

Choirs: Will resume in the fall

<u>Church Work Party:</u> The next work day will be held on Saturday, July 14th from 8:00ish-noon

<u>Corner Cupboard:</u> Next date the CC is open is July 21st from 10:00am-1:30pm

Maine Transgender Network (MTN): Meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm in the Parlor and GH and the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm in the Parlor

<u>Music Lessons:</u> Mondays 4:30pm-7:00pm and Wednesdays 9:00am - 11:00am in the Sanctuary

MUUSAN and MPA: Meets on Mondays in Goodall Hall from 5:00pm to 8:00pm through November 5th

Narcotics Anonymous: Meets every Wednesday in the Vestry from 7:00pm to 9:30pm

<u>Project CommUnity:</u> Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month in Goodall Hall from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Please email us at the following: projectcommunity@gmail.com or join the group on Facebook!

<u>Violence No More</u>: Every Thursday at 5:00pm in the Vestry

Women's Alliance: Meets the second Wednesday of the month at 12:00 noon

Worship Associates: Will resume in the fall