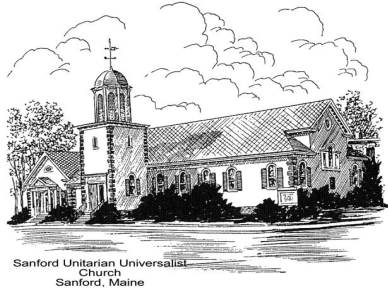


# Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church

UU NOTES Volume XXXX

December 17, 2015, Issue 11



Sanford Unitarian Universalist  
Church  
Sanford, Maine

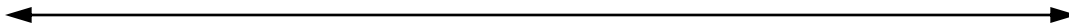
Sanford UU Church  
5 Lebanon Street  
Sanford, ME 04073  
Telephone: 207.324.3191  
E-mail: [info@sanforduuchurch.org](mailto:info@sanforduuchurch.org)  
[www.sanforduuchurch.org](http://www.sanforduuchurch.org)  
Like us on Facebook  
Minister: Rev. Sue Gabrielson  
Religious Education: Mesha/Ryan Quinn  
Choir Director: Charles Grindle  
Newsletter Editor: Mona Ouellette  
Church Historian: Helen Kane  
Webmaster: Emma Burnett  
Maintenance: Bill Ouellette

## 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)



## Worship Service and Church School Every Sunday - 10:30am Child Care is Available - Everyone is welcome!

**December 20th Service - *The Morning Star*** - Our Sunday School class will present their annual holiday pageant. The service will be led by our Directors of Religious Education, Ryan and Mesha Quinn.

**December 24th Christmas Eve Service** - This service will be held on Thursday, Christmas Eve at 6:30pm. The service will be a traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with the SUUC Bell and Vocal Choir. Childcare will be provided and refreshments will be served following the service. The service will be led by Rev. Beverly Brent.

**December 27th Service** - Join the SUUC Worship Associates and fellow congregants for our December 27th service and breakfast entitled "Sharing 2015." Participants are encouraged to bring words and music that express emotions and thoughts about experiences and events that have shaped the course of the passing year. Those who attend can expect to be in good company and fill their bellies with delicious food while sharing any of the wide range of feelings that 2015 might have engendered - from grief, despair and anger, to compassion, hope and love.

**A Letter from Rev. Sue**  
(Reprinted from her Facebook Page  
with her permission)

This would be our End of the Year letter if mail did not take over a month to go from Monteverde to the States...so, FB will have to do.

Hi All,

Just checking in and wishing everyone “whatever it is you want to be wished” at this time of year. In only 10 days we will be returning to the States. It is impossible to describe in a few brief paragraphs what we have experienced in Costa Rica.



Hopefully, you have been following us on Facebook and have seen all of the MANY pictures we have posted. We were gloriously welcomed wholly into the community here and have been immersed in life in Monteverde. Monteverde is a small community in the center of Costa Rica at about 5000 feet. There is a dry, wet and rainbow season and is located in the heart of the Cloud Forest. The temperature here is always between 70 and 85, so homes here do not need any kind of heating or cooling systems at all. Monteverde is home to the most dense species diversity in the world and it is not uncommon to look out the window and see 6 or 7 different types of hummingbirds at your yard flowers. Fruit, birds, butterflies (and bugs) are abundant and the cost of living is low. When we want to leave the temperate climate we can drive two hours down the mountain and enjoy some of the finest beaches in the world. The living is simple here, slow paced, mostly organic and beautiful at every turn. The country got rid of its army in 1949 and invested in education, the town we live in was developed by Quakers and this year Costa Rica has used NO fossil fuel to power the country’s electric grid (hydro, wind and solar instead.)

Both girls attended the Cloud Forest School (CEC) ([www.cloudforesetschool.org](http://www.cloudforesetschool.org)) and did very well academically. They were fortunate to have the best teacher in the whole world, Eva Alicia Hernández García, to learn Spanish and near daily experiences in land stewardship and environmental education.

Grace plays soccer on her high school team as well as the Monteverde women’s team, she has a live radio show on Tuesdays at 5:00 with her friend JP Jose Pablo Castro Salazar on Monteverde.FM ([monteverde.fm](http://monteverde.fm)) and has been very involved in musical productions at coffee houses and talent shows. She has an AMAZING group of friends here! We even rented out a little restaurant so she could have her Sweet 16 party. You will not be surprised to hear that she has decided to stay one more semester!!! Most of her friends will graduate this year so she will finish the year with them becoming even more fluent in Spanish and continuing her studies. She will be changing schools and attending the Monteverde Friends School ([mfschool.org](http://mfschool.org)) (not far down the road from the CEC).

*Continued next page...*

## A Letter from Rev. Sue Continued

Ellie has immersed herself in the school and the community. She was part of the opening crew of the first public library in Monteverde and remains librarian extraordinaire! She has also been engaged in a ton of new art experiences from giant tile and concrete mosaics to acrylic painting, zentangle, drawing and more. She has also performed at coffee houses and talent shows. Ellie's love of horses remains despite being thrown off a horse at about 90 miles an hour in Nicaragua and she has also been zip lining through the canopies of the rain forest, and climbed giant ficus trees.

I have been working on my dissertation. Progress is slow, but I hope to be done by the summer. I also have been immersed in the wonderful community of women here and have enjoyed the time and luxury of daily walking and enough sleep. I volunteered over 100 hours in the CEC library helping organize the collection and mostly helping the kids to learn to love books. I also help with the public library. I have had the opportunity to learn the art of mosaics, Tica cooking, Spanish and enjoyed worshipping each week at the Quaker Friends Meeting.

It has been a VERY restful and healing time. We will all be returning to the United States on December 17th and moving into a new home in Yarmouth thanks to Lori for being my scout and Team Soft Landing from both churches for helping assure that Ellie, Grace, Penny and I have a nice place to move into. (details about why we are back to being the fierce-some threesome are available privately, if you want to know) Grace will return to CR toward the end of January (and likely return for a visit near Easter time.) Ellie will be returning to 7th grade in Yarmouth and I am thrilled to be serving both the Sanford (13th year) and the Saco/Biddeford churches beginning in January (each at ½ time.) Hope to see everyone soon!

### Climate Change and Us

In synch with the Paris Climate Change agreement, Sanford UU Church is getting greener. Solar panels are now providing energy for heat and electricity. Trusses are being installed to support the Sanctuary roof. Insulation of the entire Sanctuary will follow. Long-delayed painting of the exterior trim is coming in the Spring. For the sake of our nearly 100-year old "church on the corner" and the world-wide effort to decrease climate change, [please make a gift now](#) to SUUC's Green '15 Project, 5 Lebanon St. Sanford ME 04073. Thanks to all who are giving.

**Solar Panels**



**Sanctuary Roof**





# Team Soft Landing

(A few of the many people who have helped!)



## **Before Worship and...What's happening? When? Where?**

Just a reminder that the 15 minutes before church begins is a QUIET TIME in the Sanctuary. People are invited to sit and meditate or enjoy the gathering music that we sometimes have. After that, the person leading worship will begin the service time by “inviting the bell” and then one of the Worship Associates will stand up and deliver any current news and announcements. After announcements, we will enjoy the Musical Prelude to Worship. If you have an announcement you’d like to share with the congregation, kindly fill out a short form located on the table in the entryway of the church. Please make your announcement only on activities, events and information regarding the church. Announcements must be given to a Worship Associate ten minutes prior to the start of the service. Thank you.

## **January Gift Fun Re-Gift Re-Purpose Raffle**

Did you receive a grater or framed picture for Christmas but really don't need one? Did you receive an extra 2016 calendar that you really won't use? Did someone lovingly give you a bracelet or necklace that you know would be happier on someone else? Did you receive any other lovely gifts that you don't need or won't use?

Let's bring them to church and we'll sell raffle tickets on January 3, 10, 17 and 24. The winners will be drawn on January 24 following our mid-year congregational meeting. If you'd like to help with setting it up and selling tickets this year, please let Aileen or Deb Folsom know. We'll have fun and also raise a few dollars for church!

## **Guest at Your Table**

Guest at Your Table is an annual UU tradition in which congregation members take home a box featuring people that UUSC has worked with recently. These people are your 'guests' and you are asked to share your blessings with them each meal by putting your spare change in the box. Envelopes are also available if you prefer. Boxes, envelopes and information are located on a table in the parlor. All donations will be mailed to the UUSC after the holidays.

## **Administrative Office**

The office will be closed on Friday, December 18th. For the week of December 21st, the office will be open Monday through Wednesday (December 21, 22, 23) and closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.







### ***Rev. Sue's Incidental Inspiration***

#### Lute Music

The Earth will be going on a long time  
 Before it finally freezes;  
 Men will be on it; they will take names,  
 Give their deeds reasons.  
 We will be here only  
 As chemical constituents—  
 A small franchise indeed.  
 Right now we have lives,  
 Corpuscles, Ambitions, Caresses,  
 Like everybody had once—

Here at the year's end, at the feast  
 Of birth, let us bring to each other  
 The gifts brought once west through deserts—  
 The precious metal of our mingled hair,  
 The frankincense of enraptured arms and legs,  
 The myrrh of desperate, invincible kisses—  
 Let us celebrate the daily  
 Recurrent nativity of love,  
 The endless epiphany of our fluent selves,  
 While the earth rolls away under us  
 Into unknown snows and summers,  
 Into untraveled spaces of the stars.

~ Kenneth Rexroth ~

### ***Candles Lit in Memory or Honor of a Loved One***

*Light a candle on Christmas  
Eve in memory or honor of a  
loved one. Donations are  
welcome.*



*In Honor/Memory  
of \_\_\_\_\_*

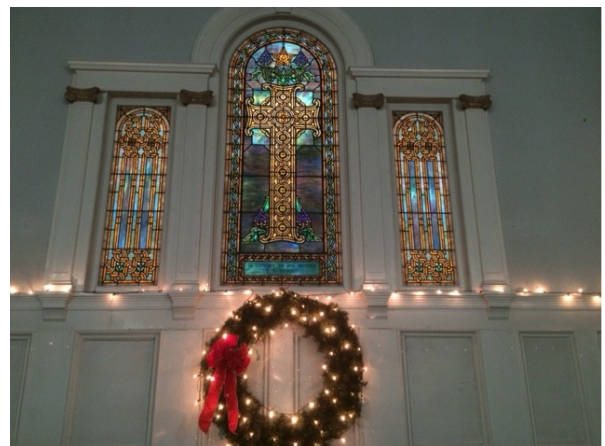
*Your name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please leave your donation and information in the  
office or in the offertory plate.*

### ***Christmas Eve Helpers Needed***

We need greeters, coffee hosts and offertory people for  
our Christmas Eve service.

### ***Refreshments for Christmas Eve Service***

Our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will  
be held at 6:30pm on Thursday, December 24th. Our  
SUUC bell and vocal choirs will perform and child care  
will be provided. Following the service, join us for  
refreshments provided by the congregation. If you are  
able, we ask you to kindly bring finger foods, healthy  
snacks, or cookie treats. Coffee and other beverages will  
be available. Thank you.



## Think Spring! FEDCO Seed Sale 2015 It is that time again!

The Sacco family will be coordinating a group order of seeds, potato and onions sets and other growing supplies for spring gardens. These seeds, sets and supplies come from a Maine-owned cooperative run by the Maine Organic Farmers and Growers known as FEDCO ([www.fedcoseeds.com](http://www.fedcoseeds.com)). Maine and NE grown – these are hardy untreated and organic varieties. Please support a Maine cooperative and a



sustainable lifestyle by buying your seeds, potato and onion sets, and growing supplies during this year's sale. Any extra proceeds from the group order will go to the church. Catalogs are available in the parlor to borrow or keep OR check out the catalog online at <http://www.fedcoseeds.com/>. You can use the order forms in the catalog or one of the extras provided in the church parlor. Ordering instructions or other questions? Contact Jan Sacco at [jrsacco@metrocast.net](mailto:jrsacco@metrocast.net) or 207-457-9268 for more information. Order deadline is January 10, 2016.

## Thank You “Angel Helpers!”

Stella and I send a huge THANK YOU to each "angel helper" who generously participated in the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Project this holiday season! Twenty volunteers took tags home and purchased the requested toys and clothing, thus fulfilling the Christmas wishes of the children. I know of one special "helper" who's initials are P.K., who took home four tags, reminding me of the adage, " 'Tis better to give than to receive"--- but all the "helpers" bought gifts unhindered by cost or inconvenience, though none of us is rolling in dough. For this you deserve well-deserved recognition! (The contacts we made within the Salvation Army staff are also worthwhile, and Stella and I felt like kids ourselves as we delivered the gifts next door, too!) Again, Thank You All for doing your part for those less fortunate in our community. Diane Whiteside-Peck

### **Parking for the Church**

**MIDTOWN MALL (one block southeast) has plenty of free parking.**

If you need to park closer to the church:

**Lebanon Street: YES** - in front of the church and Goodall Hall only.

**Twombly Road: YES.**

**Sweetser Lot: NO**

**Salvation Army: NO**

(Their services are held at 10:45am)



## **Morning Coffee With Bhante Sujatha**

With our countless belongings, connections, and information, we have no choice but to leave this life in death. Consider what we will take with us on that day? Only the merit of our deeds.

## Board 2015-2016

President: Aileen Fortune June 30, 2017  
Vice President: Diane Whiteside-Peck June 30, 2017  
Clerk: Bruce Harrison June 30, 2016  
Financial Secretary: Janet Wood June 30, 2016  
Treasurer: Deb Folsom June 30, 2017  
Co-DREs: Mesha and Ryan Quinn  
Choir Director: Charles Grindle

### Liaisons:

Stella DiAnn June 30, 2017  
Gary Wood June 30, 2018  
Patty Kidder June 30, 2016

## Church Leadership 2015-2016

Budget and Finance Chair:  
Building and Grounds Chair: Bob McCormick  
Caring Circle: Gail Lemley Burnett  
Choir: Charles Grindle  
Church Historian: Helen Kane  
Committee on Ministry: Ryan Quinn, Gail Lemley, Rev. Sue  
Corner Cupboard Treasurer: Judi Reis  
Denominational Affairs:  
Earth Stewards Green Team: Judi Reis  
Finance Committee: Peg Sawyer, Pat Herrick, Ginny Howe, Deb Folsom, Lisa Huestis  
Grant Manager: Pat Herrick  
Homesteaders: Jan Sacco and Melody Wood  
Investment Management Committee: John Steffens, Peg Sawyer, Art Dumas, Howard Dupee, Pat Herrick, Ginny Howe  
Members and Friends: Tonia Chase  
Music Committee: Melody Wood  
Nominating Committee : Tonia Chase, Patty Kidder, Lucinda French  
Partners For Sacred Places: Lee Burnett  
Pianist: Ruth Leipold  
Religious Education Committee:  
Second Century Fund Committee: Lee Burnett  
Social Action Committee:  
Stewardship: Diane Whiteside-Peck and Patty Kidder  
UUSC:  
Webmaster: Emma Burnett  
Women's Alliance: Nancy Farnham  
Worship: Rev. Sue Gabrielson  
Worship Associates: Bev Brent, Judi Reis, Jan Sacco, Janie Waterhouse, Stella DiAnn, Patty Kidder, Mesha Quinn, Evelyn LaBree, Tom Huber

### 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, doctors' appointments, etc. Please call Gail at 324-1596 if you need assistance.

### Minister's Hours

Rev. Sue is currently on sabbatical, she will return January 2016. ☺

### Administrative Office Hours

Office hours are: Monday, 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

Board Meeting: The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12th at 6:30pm following the potluck

Book Group: TBD

Choirs: **Bell** rehearsal date December 21 from 6:00pm to 6:45pm. **Choir** rehearsal date is December 21 at 6:45 Choir rehearses February 8, 15, 22 - March 7, 14, 21, 28 - April 4 at 6:30pm

Church Work Party: The next work day will be held on Saturday, January 9th from 8:00-noon

Committee on Ministry: TBA

Corner Cupboard Meetings: Next date the CC is open is December 19th from 10:00-2:00

Council Meeting: Next meeting will be held January 19th at 6:30pm following the potluck

Earth Stewards Green Team: Meets as needed

Finance Committee: Meetings are generally held the Sunday before a Board meeting

Homesteader's Group: Generally meets 6:30pm at the church or a member's home on the third Thursday of the month

Music Lessons: Private lessons are given on Mondays from 12:30-3:00 and Wednesday from 1:40-3:00 and 6:50-7:35 in the Sanctuary or Goodall Hall

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

Second Century Building Committee: Meets as needed

UUYC (UUs of York County) Meeting: TBA

Violence No More: Every Thursday at 5:00pm in the vestry

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

Worship Associates: TBD