



Along the Way...

Dear Friends of Saco/Biddeford and Sanford,

By the time you read this, you should have been contacted by a member of the Transition Team within your church (or will be shortly.) These folks have agreed to work with me as we begin the discernment process that will shape the search for your new minister. They're going to invite each of you to join me at one of the small group meetings that will be held within each congregation in the next weeks. The purpose of the gatherings will be two-fold: firstly, to allow you to get to know me and me to get to know you in a more informal setting apart from Sunday worship and our busy coffee hour. Secondly, to ask you to share with one another and me just a bit of your story, why you came to church, why you continue to be a part of it and what is your vision for the future, especially in regard to professional ministry. It is vital to our system of congregational self-government that a decision as important as calling a minister should be taken with the clearest sense of the church's vision, needs and desires. Whatever the sense of the congregation, it will be a crucial guide to your search committee in their work.

A question that always, always arises at the initial stage of the ministerial search is this: Why is this so labor intensive and why does it take so long? Some with the experience of hiring in business or academia may observe that openings for faculty or executives can be filled within a year, often less, and with the involvement of far fewer people. Why does the UUA so strongly recommend this method that is projected normally take two years and in our case, because of the possible involvement of two churches, even three? These are legitimate questions and deserve a fuller answer than I have space for here. In my professional experience, the exploration of those concerns benefits greatly from the back and forth of a small, informal group, but I will just mention one aspect of this.

Our ministers do more than run the church and provide Sunday sermons. They companion the members of the congregation in all of the great passages of life from the beginning to the end, from occasions of the greatest joy to the deepest grief. In our tradition, the person who fills that office can be called or dismissed only by vote of the entire congregation. Therefore, the minister is responsible not to the Board or a hiring committee but to the entire congregation. While no method or procedure is ever completely foolproof, we have found that a thorough and painstaking exploration of the congregation's needs, on the one hand, and an equally thorough process of selection by a trusted search committee, on the other, gives our churches the best chance for a good and lasting match.

Each congregation has before it various issues in relation to professional ministry. Some are unique to UUSCB, some unique to SUUC. In addition, there are issues common to both churches. In envisioning the future, it is conceivable that each church may wish to continue its journey separately, as has been the history of each. It is also conceivable that, rather than just sharing a minister who serves each church in its own traditional way, the two congregations may wish to explore the creation of an intentionally cooperative ministry, the dimensions of which are yet to be determined. The outcome of that process of discernment will directly shape the ministerial search, particularly in regard to the ministerial opportunity you will offer and the ministers in search who may be attracted to it.

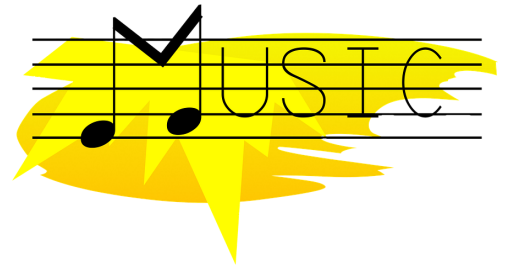
Our discernment process, done thoroughly and in good faith, will take time and effort, more time and effort than is commonly devoted to filling an executive or academic position. I hope you will take the first step in that process by joining me at one of the upcoming small group meetings, where we can explore these questions and others more thoroughly.

Peace, Rev. Steve

Ringers and Singers!!

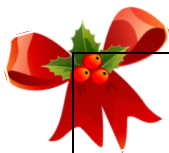
It's that time - time to prepare music for our wonderful Christmas Eve service. We will begin rehearsing the bells, and the choir has begun working on the vocal selections. Feel free to jump in and make a joyful noise with us. Even if you were involved last year, I'd like to hear from you concerning your availability this year. Contact me at ycuumd@gmail.com or 321-1592. Let's make the heavens resound!

Singers, we will rehearse Christmas music from 7:00-8:30 on November 29th, December 5th, 12th, 19th, and the 24th in the afternoon. Christmas Eve Ringers- we'll rehearse on the same evenings from 6:00pm to 6:45pm. See you then! Rev. Charlie

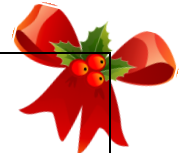


Composter

Thanks to Don and Ginny Reusch, SUUC now has a composter for our kitchen and yard waste. It's located behind the church at the bottom of the long ramp, right in front of the shed. Please feel free to empty the compost cans after coffee hour. Thanks so much!



Holiday Cheer UUCSB Fair



Saturday, December 3rd - 8:00am to 2:00pm

- Fine crafts by local artisans
- Old country store
- Granny's Attic
- Soups, casseroles and lots more to eat in or take out
- Sweets and baked good
- Plants
- Books

Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco & Biddeford
60 School Street, Saco, ME 040742
207-282-0062 - www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com

**The SUUC will have tables at this fair offering great items!
Come to this wonderful fair and support the fundraising efforts of the
UUCSB and SUUC Churches.**

Time Talent Treasure

Our Time, Talents and Treasures Auction and dinner, always a fun filled event, will take place at the church on Saturday, November 19th. This fundraiser is coming up quickly and as time is limited, we ask you to please donate as soon as possible. You might donate a breakfast or holiday basket, a couple of hours of handyperson or gardening work, a kayak outing or computer help, fleece socks, jewelry, or photographs you've taken, a dinner for two or four, a month of soups or breads, or anything your imagination thinks of your personal talents can provide! Please bring a potluck dish; we will eat together at 6:00pm in the Vestry with the auction to follow. Sign-up sheets to donate time/talent or treasures are located on the table in the parlor, and there is a large tote box located under the table for donations. Working together we can make this happen and make it great! Please contact Diane Whiteside-Peck at dianegaryhana@hotmail.com if you have any questions. Many, many thanks to all of you who sign up and help keep our church humming!



Hoarding: How to Support Recovery

Reality TV has done a disservice, in many cases, to those who suffer as a result of hoarding. It is a mental illness and individuals can be helped if others know what they can and should not do. The training in this workshop will identify the vast amount of disinformation and explores how this unique form of discrimination permeates our culture.

Want to Learn More: Come to Hoarding 101: How to Support Recovery

Where: St. George's Episcopal Church, 1 Emerson St. Sanford, ME

When: Saturday, November 12th from 9:30AM – Noon

Presenter: Eric Grainger, MSW from Hoarding Services Shalom House Inc.

Please join us for an interactive and lively discussion about hoarding and how individuals and churches can help.

☪ Refreshments will be served ☪

The Presentation and Conversation Includes:

- * What is mental health recovery?
- * An overview of hoarding (also known as finding and keeping)
 - * The signs and symptoms
 - * The demographics of the disorder
 - * The community impact
- * Resources and successful approaches
 - * Treatment options
 - * Recent research

Please register by calling 324-8119 and leaving your name or emailing stgeorge@gwi.net to ensure we have enough resource materials and refreshments.

This Old Church – Some Building History and Recent Details

The Sanford Unitarian Church congregation was established in 1909. The newly constructed church building was dedicated the week before Armistice Day in 1918. In 1928, Goodall Hall was built. Over the years, many repairs and improvements in the buildings were made.

In 2005, a developer inquired about the possible sale of the church buildings. The idea was to raze them and build a pharmacy. During 2005-2006, “The Future: What’s Next? Committee” studied possible choices, informed the membership, and led a discernment process. At the 2006 Annual Meeting, the congregation voted overwhelmingly not to sell our church buildings and committed to care of the building to secure it for continued use.

In the next few years, new front stairs were built in memory of Perry Fraser. The oil tanks and sprinkler heads were replaced and emergency exit signs and crash bars were installed. The leadership participated in the UUA’s Sacred Spaces training, and the congregation celebrated its 100th anniversary.

In November 2011, the church established the 2nd Century Capital Fund and capital campaigns (through 2015) yielded generous gifts from members and friends as well as bequests, grants, and investment to allow for improvements in our buildings that are summarized below:

- 2011** Parlor kitchenette; accessible restroom
- 2012** Reroofing church building
- 2013** Replacement of obsolete electric wiring in Sanctuary
- 2014** Insulation of Goodall Hall, parlor, vestibule, and minister’s office;
Replacement of 6 deteriorated windows in nursery, meeting room, library
- 2015** Solar panels, conversion system for heat/electric; Goodall Hall heat pumps
- 2016** Support trusses to secure Sanctuary roof; Sanctuary cap and walls insulated
New bulkhead, beams and supports over oil tanks completed
Engineering assessment of church tower structure

In October, a proposal was submitted to the Maine Community Foundation Steeples Fund for funds to cover half the cost of securing and painting the church tower. Previously, MCF’s Steeple Fund had paid 90% of an engineering assessment of the tower structure. In November 2018, the SUUC’s church building will be 100 years old.

Submitted by David Agan





Thank You

Once I realized that I hadn't gotten confused or lost my place in the order of service, I was delighted by the surprise Happy Birthday wishes at the end of the service on October 16th and by the special cake at coffee hour. Many thanks for your thoughtfulness, Rev. Steve

MUUSAN

Judi and Evelyn like what they hear from the UU Church of Saco and Biddeford's Randa Thomas about the **Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network's** state ballot initiatives endorsements:

- ◆ **highest endorsement:** yes on question 5 Ranked Choice Voting
- ◆ **strong endorsement:** yes on question 4 Minimum Wage
- ◆ yes on question 3 Background checks on firearm sales
- ◆ **endorsement:** yes on question 2 Public school funding with 3% surcharge on \$200,000+ incomes



Make a difference in the life of someone with Alzheimer's Disease or Related Dementia! Friendly visitors sought by Southern Maine Agency on Aging for 1-2 hours per week to provide companionship and support to people with a memory concern living alone, and to help maintain a link from the client's home to program staff. For more information, contact Southern Maine Agency on Aging's Volunteer Coordinator, Angie Millington, at (207) 396-6595 or email amillington@smaaa.org

Annual Fall Fair

at

St. George Episcopal Church

Saturday, November 5, 2016

9:00 - 2:00

The annual fair will be held at the church at 1 Emerson Street in Sanford. Lots of wonderful items will be available to help you get a jump start on your holiday shopping. Raffles, Christmas Corner, Grandma's Attic, baked goods, jewelry, craft table and so much more await you! A Flu Shot Clinic by Rite Aid and Free Blood Pressure Screening will also be available.

Church Bulletin Bloopers ☺

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

Use of the Church Reminder

We have received notice from several people coming to church that they have found lights left on and doors unlocked. Please remember to double check that all lights have been turned off and all doors locked before leaving. Thank you.

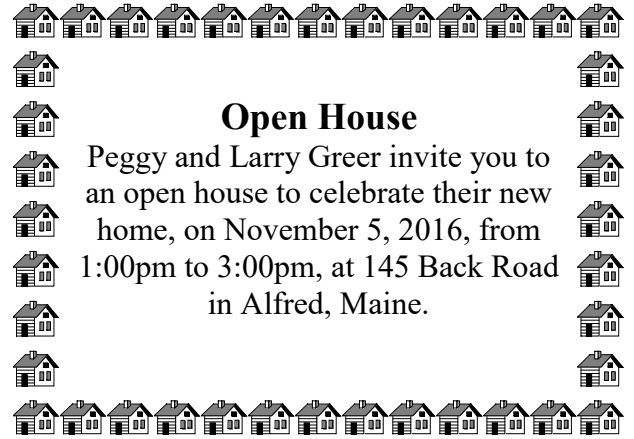
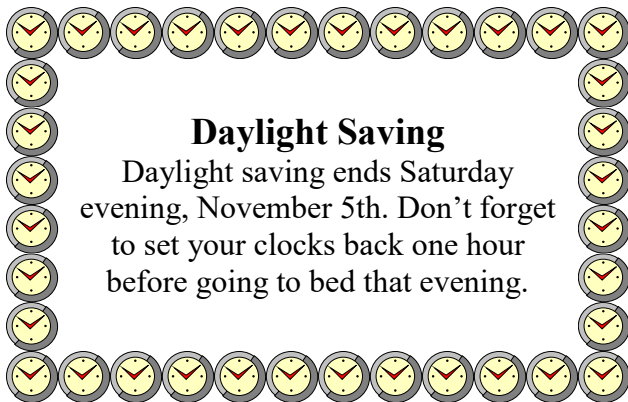
Administrative Office

In November, the office will be closed on Friday, the 11th, in honor of Veteran's Day and the 24th and 25th for Thanksgiving.



**Don't forget to vote on Tuesday,
November 8th!**

Storm Cancellation Information - As much as we don't like to think of winter and snow in our near future, we must be prepared. Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church service and event cancellations are announced on the following television stations: WCSH 6, WMTW 8 and WGME 13. You may also receive the latest information regarding cancellations by calling the church office (324-3191) for the latest recording or visit our website www.sanforduuchurch.org or our Facebook page for the most recent information. In addition, a congregational email will be sent.



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.
Town Realty: NO
Sweetser Lot: NO
Salvation Army: NO
(Their services are held at 10:45am)

Board 2016-2017

President: Aileen Fortune June 30, 2017
Vice President: Diane Whiteside-Peck June 30, 2017
Clerk: Bruce Harrison June 30, 2018
Financial Secretary: Janet Wood June 30, 2018
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, 2019

Church Leadership 2016-2017

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
Corner Cupboard Treasurer: Peg Sawyer
Earth Stewards Green Team: Judi Reis
Finance Committee:
Fundraising: Diane Whiteside-Peck
Grant Manager: Marcel Gagnon
Homesteaders: Jan Sacco and Melody Wood
Members and Friends: Tonia Chase
Music Committee: Melody Wood
Nominating Committee : Tonia Chase 2017, Ginny Howe 2018,
Lisa Huestis 2019
Partners For Sacred Places: Lee Burnett
Pianist: Ruth Leipold
Religious Education Committee:
Second Century Fund Committee: Lee Burnett
Stewardship: Diane Whiteside-Peck and Patty Kidder
UUSC:
Women's Alliance: Nancy Farnham
Worship: Rev. Steve Cook
Worship Associates: Rev. Steve Cook, Bev Brent, Judi Reis,
Jan Sacco, Janie Waterhouse, Stella DiAnn, Patty Kidder,
Mesha Quinn, Evelyn LaBree, Tom Huber, 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, doctors' appointments, etc. Please call Gail at 324-1596 if you need assistance.

Minister's Hours

Rev. Steve Cook will be in his office on Wednesdays, as needed, from 11:00-3:00
781-330-2521 stephenmichaelcook@ME.com

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: November 8th, Tuesday, at 6:00pm

Book Group: Meeting on Friday, November 18th in the Parlor at 6:00pm

Choir: Vocal and bell choir rehearsals are held on Mondays in the Sanctuary – see newsletter for schedule

Church Work Party: The next work day will be held on Saturday, November 12th from 8:00ish-noon

Committee on Ministry: Meets as needed

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

Council Meeting: Meets as needed

Earth Stewards Green Team: Meets as needed

Finance Committee: Usually meets 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 4:30-7:30 in either the Sanctuary, Goodall Hall or one of the rooms downstairs and on Thursdays from 9:00-12:00 in the Sanctuary

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

Rebuild Maine: Goodall Hall on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 3:00-7:00 and Saturday 9:00-2:00, last day to meet is Monday, November 7th

Second Century Building Committee: Meets as needed

UUYC (UUs of York County) Meeting: Meets as needed

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: Sunday, November 6th at 9:30am