

Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church

UU NOTES Volume XXXXI

April 4, 2017, Issue 10



Sanford Unitarian Universalist
Church
Sanford, Maine

Sanford UU Church
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Sanford, ME 04073
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Like us on Facebook
Minister: Rev. Steve Cook
Religious Education: Mesha/Ryan Quinn
Choir Director: Charles Grindle
Pianist: Ruth Leipold
Newsletter Editor: Mona Ouellette
Church Historian: Helen Kane
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 Services are held every Sunday at 10:30am - Child Care is Provided Everyone is Welcome!

April 9th Service - *Verisimilitude* - The service will be led by Worship Associate, Tom Huber. Some things have the appearance of truth but in fact are not true. Are we beset with verisimilitudes? Some of our deepest understandings are being challenged. Our acapella group, the UU Notes, will sing.

April 16th Service - *Easter Service*- The service will be led by Rev. Beverly Brent. The SUUC Choir will sing.

April 23rd Service - *The Future is Theirs: Kids Caring for the Earth* - The service will be led by Worship Associate, Judi Reis.

April 30th Service - *Come Pray With Me* - The service will be led by guest minister, Rev. Lori Whittemore.

May 7th Service - We'll have a joint service with UUCSB with Rev. Margaret Beckman at the Saco Church. After the service, we'll have a discussion and Q and A, led by Rev. Margaret and Rev. Steve, with both congregations about the search process and moving forward. It will be an exciting day! Please plan to be there, more information coming soon.



Along the Way ...

Dear Friends,

Perhaps by now, word will have reached you concerning the startling resignation of UUA President, the Rev. Peter Morales. (Below you will find his letter and the response from the UUA Leadership Council.) While this is a bit of a shock, it's important to remember that Peter's term was but three months from being completed; three candidates for President have already been campaigning for over a year; a new President would in any case have been elected at General Assembly in June.

There will be more to say about this in the time ahead, prompting deep thoughts and feelings about issues such as systemic racism and unexamined biases even within organizations as committed to racial justice as the UUA. However, in the meantime, I have every confidence that UUA staff and leadership already in place will continue their work of service to our congregations. We, in search, will have no reason to worry about a disruption in our process already underway.

In the meantime, I hope you will join me in offering thoughts and prayerful intentions to Peter, to the staff of the Association and to all of our sister and brother UUs across the country. Let us resolve that this painful moment will lead to greater sensitivity, renewed commitment and real action in helping the UUA become more the justice-seeking religious association it has always meant to be.

Reverend Steve

UUA Board of Trustees

Dear Colleagues,

You are all aware of the ongoing controversy regarding the UUA's hiring practices and lack of diversity in our senior leadership. Unfortunately, a note I sent to UUA staff a few days ago made matters worse. In my hasty effort I created more hurt for those already hurting. I failed to lead appropriately. I reacted when I should have listened. I am deeply sorry.

I have clearly lost the trust of many people and my comments have become a focal point in the ongoing discussion. It is clear to me that I am not the right person to lead our Association as we work together to create the processes and structures that will address our shortcomings and build the diverse staff we all want. We need space for healing and listening.

It is time for me to step aside. I am resigning the office of UUA president effective April 1. It has been an honor to serve as president. I am grateful for your dedicated and diligent service to our faith. May you have wisdom, vision, and courage in the days ahead.

My fervent prayer is that by stepping aside I help create a space for moving forward together in love and respect. It is time for us to come together, to listen deeply to one another, to reaffirm our commitment to our ideals.

Faithfully,

Peter Morales

March 30, 2017

Continued next page...

Along the Way Continued ...

Dear Unitarian Universalists,

We write this having learned from our President, the Rev. Peter Morales, his intention to resign from his leadership position in our faith. We honor him for his service to our Unitarian Universalist movement. We hope that his difficult decision will open a new way for the work of racial justice in our own house.

We want to apologize for the way our leadership at the UUA has fallen far short in building the diverse Associational office that the core values of our faith demand. In addition, we understand that our responses and silence in response to recent public statements have layered harm upon harm.

We take very seriously the question of how our policies, practices, leadership and culture systematically center and advantage white people within Unitarian Universalism. We acknowledge that it is past time for us to examine more deeply than we ever have the patterns of institutional racism that are embedded in our practices of leadership, including hiring.

It has been humbling, devastatingly sad, and inspiring to read so many courageous calls to a deeper justice, to more courage, more faithfulness from us, especially from Unitarian Universalists of Color who have helped us hold a mirror to our own institution. We recommit ourselves and our service to this call.

In the next week, we will begin putting together a plan for how we will engage in an immediate internal review of how our institution advantages white leaders, and Unitarian Universalists. This will include a review of hiring and promotion procedures and goals, the involvement of outside expertise, working together with the UUA Board, and engaging in critical self-examination about how all of our programs and initiatives advance our commitment to anti-racism and inclusivity.

We will be examining our own hearts, listening humbly, and partnering with other leaders in our faith to find our way forward.

We are grateful for your faithful, angry, disappointed, loving expressions of your hopes for our faith. This, all of it, is what will carry us to a new way.

Yours in service,

Rev. Harlan Limpert
Chief Operating Officer

John Hurley
Director of Communications

Tim Brennan
Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer

Rev. Sarah Lammert
Director of Ministries and Faith Development

Rev. Mary Katherine Morn
Director of Stewardship and Development

Rob Molla
Director of Human Resources

Helene Atwan
Director of Beacon Press

Mark Steinwinter
Director of Information Technology Services

Taquienna Boston
Director of Multicultural Growth and Witness

Rev. Scott Tayler
Director for Congregational Life

Call For All Pledge Cards!

Dear Members, Please return your pledge cards for the Annual Budget Drive before April 7th! Remember, this is simply your promise to help the church pay its bills and staff in the new Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2017; your pledge, your promise to help, is needed THIS WEEK so that the Budget and Finance Committee and the Board can create and approve our new Budget. No money is needed until after July 1st, and your pledge can be paid on any schedule that makes you comfortable - weekly, monthly, every three months, or all at once. We thank all who have pledged so far! The church has promises of \$45,000 at this time, which is a bit short of our goal. Let us know if you need a pledge card, or pick one up from the Parlor table at church. If you can help, please send or bring your pledge card to church. THANKS VERY MUCH! Diane Whiteside-Peck and Kristie Praschak

Annual Reports Early “Heads Up”

Annual Reports 2016-2017

Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 21, 2017

It's time to begin thinking about your annual report. A notice and list of reports will be emailed to Board and Committee Leaders mid April. Please send your reports to the office no later than Tuesday, May 9th, as we would like the Annual Report books available on Sunday, May 14th, a week prior to the meeting. Thank you.

Common Good Reminder

We still have quite a few spaces left for people to sign up for the Common Good. Our sign up sheets for the Common Good (greeting, providing flowers, hosting coffee/social hour) are located on the bulletin board in the parlor. These sign up sheets give everyone an opportunity to add their name to the dates they would like to greet, supply flowers and/or host our coffee/social hour. We would like to see everyone participate 2-3 times over the year if possible. In every case you will receive an email reminder the week before your chosen dates. Thank you for your participation.

Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church Has a Facebook Page

In case you were not aware, along with many other churches, we have clicked into 'social media' with a Facebook page. This is just another (excellent) way to share news plus have some visibility for the good stuff happening here. We hope you will like... and "LIKE" this page so that it shows up on YOUR page. Feel free to share it. Feel free to post information that might be of interest to others in our congregation, for example news from the UUA or photos from events at church.URL: <https://www.facebook.com/sanfordunitarianuniversalistchurch>

Church Work Group

Our wonderful, hard working church work group will meet on Saturday, April 8th from 8:00ish to noon. Please contact Bob McCormick for more information. We thank Bob and all of our volunteers for their time and hard work!



Button It! Mini-Button Fundraiser

This spring, you can express yourself, have fun and raise money for SUUC all at the same time by participating in the Button It! Mini-Button Fundraiser. Choose from a variety of button designs and messages to find one (or more!) that fits who you are and what you believe in. Each button is only \$1.00, and every penny goes to support our church community. Please take part, buttons are for sale on a table in the Parlor.



These Americans support a FREE PRESS.

CLYNK - On Thursday, March 2nd, \$70.00 was picked up at Hannaford Supermarket from the church bottle and can returns. On November 4th, \$120.95 was picked up giving us a total so far of \$190.95. We thank all who participate in this program; money collected from this is entered into our fundraising line. CLYNK bags are available on a table in Goodall Hall. Together we can make a difference!

Meditation Class - Are you a beginner and looking to deepen your practice? Do you want to learn to live meditatively, cultivate acceptance, non-judging, patience, gratitude, serenity and joy, become a better listener and sleep better, feel more calm and have inner peace? All are welcome! Once a month on the third Tuesday of the month (April 18, May 16, June 20) Cindy Simon, M.A., CC, Reiki Master, will teach a class from 4:00pm to 5:00pm in Goodall Hall. The cost is \$10.00 per class, please sign up with Mona in the office if you are interested.

Thank You - I would like to thank everyone for the beautiful card and all the lovely notes and well wishes I received for my birthday. It meant so much to me, I was very touched. Thank you all for your love and support. Love, Mona



Happy Easter!

Aiden and Eric looking sharp and striped for Sunday service and RE.



April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship 10:30 with Rev. Steve Special Congregational Meeting AA in Vestry 5:00-6:15	3 Jeff Kaz. Music lessons in Sanctuary 4:30-7:30 Choir rehearsal in sanctuary 6:30	4 Newsletter Day	5 Narcotics Anonymous in Vestry 7:30-9:00	6 Jeff Kaz. Music lessons in Sanctuary 9:00-12:00 VNM Vestry 5:00 "Game of Thrones" viewing Parlor 6:30	7 AA in Vestry 6:00-7:00	8 Church Work Party 8:00ish-noon Eli Taylor reception in the sanc. & vestry 2:30pm-7:00pm
9 Worship 10:30 with Tom Huber Our UU Notes will sing AA in Vestry 5:00-6:15	10 Jeff Kaz. Music lessons in Sanctuary 4:30-7:30 Choir rehearsal in sanctuary 6:30	11 Board Meeting 6:30	12 Narcotics Anonymous in Vestry 7:30-9:00	13 Jeff Kaz. Music lessons in Sanctuary 9:00-12:00 VNM Vestry 5:00 "Game of Thrones" viewing Parlor 6:30	14 CC sets up Book Group meeting in Parlor 6:00 AA in Vestry 6:00-7:00	15 Corner Cupboard is open 10:00-2:00
16 Easter Sunday 10:30 with Rev. Beverly Brent The SUUC choir will sing AA in Vestry 5:00-6:15	17 Patriots' Day The office is closed Jeff Kaz. Music lessons in Sanctuary 4:30-7:30	18 Meditation Class in Goodall Hall 4:00-5:00 with Cindy Simon	19 Narcotics Anonymous in Vestry 7:30-9:00	20 Jeff Kaz. Music lessons in Sanctuary 9:00-12:00 VNM Vestry 5:00 "Game of Thrones" viewing Parlor 6:30	21 AA in Vestry 6:00-7:00	22 Earth Day
23 Worship 10:30 with Judi Reis AA in Vestry 5:00-6:15	24 Jeff Kaz. Music lessons in Sanctuary 4:30-7:30 Choir rehearsal in sanctuary 6:30	25	26 Narcotics Anonymous in Vestry 7:30-9:00	27 Jeff Kaz. Music lessons in Sanctuary 9:00-12:00 VNM Vestry 5:00	28 AA in Vestry 6:00-7:00	29
30 Worship 10:30 with Rev. Lori Whittemore AA in Vestry 5:00-6:15						

Death by Chocolate Resurrection Report

This occasion was a resounding success, judging from the social engagement among our congregation and choir visitors, the obvious pleasure felt by our bakers, who outdid themselves with heavenly chocolate creations to tempt all palates, and the joyful participation of all those who helped out in many capacities, including many of the children, who came in early and stayed late. Dee was the lucky winner of Ruth's chocolate pizza, so she will have a group of happy campers at home! We owe a huge debt of gratitude to our very generous anonymous donor, who treated everyone present with cafe goodies to die for! We sold the remaining 3 jars of Liz Perry's famous hot fudge at an auction price of \$10.00 each, bringing our grand total to \$541.00. As always, Mona and Bill gave their all to make things go smoothly, efficiently and beautifully, for which I am deeply grateful.

From the glorious music that preceded the event to the happy gathering that followed, it was a harmonious and lovely Sunday morning. Thank you, one and all, for your enthusiastic participation.

Next time: PIES, perhaps?? Helen Kane



So does James!



Rain and Vicky like chocolate.



Old-timers reconnect...over chocolate.

One of the chocolate tables looking tasty!

More chocolate photographs next page...

Chocolate Fun Continued



Chocolate went well, now we are talking about a tea!



West Newfield people love all kinds of chocolate!



Coffee and chocolate go great together.



Say "cheese" and show chocolate!

A Note from Rev. Steve

Dear Friends, This is to let you know that from Wednesday afternoon, April 5 to Friday afternoon, April 7, I will join ministerial colleagues from the Northern New England UU Minister's Association on a professional retreat. This will be held at the Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford. As you see, this will not be far away and although it will shorten my usual office hours in Saco, I will check in with both churches that day before "crossing the river." In the event of a pastoral emergency, I will still be reachable through my usual cell-phone and e-mail contacts, (though I would really stress the word, "emergency.") Best thoughts, Rev. Steve

Game of Thrones

Join us on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in the parlor as we present season one of the hit series "Game of Thrones." This presentation series is by invitation and is a community educational outreach activity through the Maine People's Alliance. There are no charges or fees for attendees. We'll have a brief introduction and then we'll follow up the viewing with a discussion that may look at links in "medieval societies" and our modern ones. No one under the age of 18 without written permission of a parent or guardian. This presentation will be for educational purposes only. Please contact Patty Kidder for more information.

TriQuire at the SUUC Sunday Service on March 19th and Kennebunk on March 26th



A breath before singing - Sanford, Kennebunk and Saco-Biddeford Choirs together.



Sisters in song!



Saco-Biddeford and Sanford Presidents love music - Niki and Aileen.



TriQuire in Kennebunk

SUUC Book Group

The SUUC Book Group, rescheduled from March 24th, will gather on April 14th at 6:00pm in Goodall Hall to discuss *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer, a mother, scientist, decorated professor, and enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. All are welcome.

Save the Date! Mark your calendar for Sunday, May 7! We'll have a joint service with UUCSB with Rev. Beckman at the Saco Church. After the service, we'll have a discussion and Q and A, led by Rev. Margaret and Rev. Steve, with both congregations about the search process and moving forward. It will be an exciting day! Please plan to be there, more information coming soon.

Easter Flowers for April 16, 2017

The graceful forms, the lavish colors and the heady fragrance of early spring flowers are a tradition at our Easter Sunday worship service. This is the time to consider contributing to the display of beautiful flowers that will adorn our Sanctuary on Sunday, April 16th.

Yes, I would like to donate \$ _____ for the purchase of Easter flowers for the Sanctuary of the SUUC. Please mark "Easter Flowers" on the outside of the envelope.

Name _____ In honor/memory of _____

Make a Difference in the Life of a Vet - Southern Maine Agency on Aging

If you served in the military, this is your chance to help older veterans and those with disabilities in York and Cumberland Counties.

- * Visit a veteran in his/her home
- * Chat and swap stories
- * Go out for coffee or lunch
- * Make referrals for needed services
- * Provide much needed companionship

Register today for training on May 3rd and 5th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at the Sanford UU Church. Please call Sue Gold at SMAA at 207-396-6521 or email sgold@smaaa.org.



*Rev. Charles Grindle, Interfaith Minister
Music Director at FPUU*

Charlie's American Songbook Piano Concert

The First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, located at 114 Main Street in Kennebunk, ME, proudly presents Rev. Charles Grindle in a May Concert.

This event will take place on Saturday, May 6th at 7:30pm. Tickets will be sold at the door, \$10.00 for adults, \$8.00 for seniors, children are free. Refreshments will be served.

FMI please call Jaylene Summers at 985-7412 or FPUU at 985-3700.

Church Bulletin Bloopers ☺ - Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

March Storm - A Big Thank You to Bob McCormick and his Crew for Their Hard Work!



**St. George Episcopal Church
50¢ Clothing Sale**

1 Emerson Street in Sanford

Friday, April 28th 9:00 - 3:00
Saturday, April 29th 9:00 - 1:00
Free blood pressure screening is available both days.

We appreciate this lovely note!

**Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church
REQUEST CARD**

- I would like to receive the church newsletter
- I would like to know more about becoming a member of the church
- I would like to speak with the Minister
- I would like to find out about pledging
- I would like to find out about planned giving
- I would like to get more involved in the church, especially in:

Name TREY

Address I just wanted to thank

City/Town the church members for being so State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone friendly.

Email _____

Date of Request _____

If you are a newcomer to our Church, welcome, we are glad you are here! Please introduce yourself to us during the coffee/social hour in the Parlor following the service. Please place this in collection plate or hand to the greeters or the Minister. Thank you.

**Boston Saengerfest Men's Chorus
(Rev. Steve is a Member of This Chorus)**

♪ Sunday, April 23, 2017 at 3:00pm ♪
Cary Memorial Building
Lexington, MA

Ute Gfrerer is an internationally-known operatic soprano who happens to live in Nahant, MA; she has appeared with this chorus before and just the chance to hear her is worth the price of admission. Past directors will join them to share favorites from their repertoire and it should be a very fun concert. More information about the chorus (and if you wish, online ticket purchase) is available at <https://saengerfest.org>

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 Tonia Chase
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: April 11th, Tuesday, at 6:30pm, with a potluck supper beginning at 5:30pm

Book Group: Meeting on Friday, April 14th at 6:00pm

Choir: Mondays at 6:30pm as scheduled

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

Committee on Ministry: Meets as needed

Corner Cupboard: Next date the CC is open is April 15th from 10:00am-2:00pm

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

Meditation Class: The third Tuesday of each month in Goodall Hall from 4:00pm-5:00pm, with Cindy Simon

Music Lessons: Private lessons are given on Mondays from 4:30-7:30 in either the Sanctuary or Goodall Hall and on Thursdays from 9:00am-12:00 in the Sanctuary

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

Project CommUnity: This is a group of concerned and committed individuals working to create an inclusive and connected community focused on social justice through education, art, and service. Meeting times vary but are generally every other week on Wednesdays in Goodall Hall from 6:30pm-8:00pm. Please email us at the following: projectcommunity@gmail.com for the next meeting date or to join the group on Facebook!

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, May 21st at 9:00am