



# Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church

## UU NOTES Volume XLIV

### January 2021, Issue 7

Sanford UU Church  
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Minister: Rev. Shay MacKay  
Religious Education Directors:  
Mesha and Ryan Quinn  
Pianist: Ruth Leipold  
Church Administrator: Mona Ouellette  
Newsletter Editor: Mona Ouellette  
Church Historian: Helen Kane  
Maintenance/Sexton: 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)

## Services Continue to be Celebrated Online via Zoom at 10:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2399631729> Meeting ID: 239 963 1729 Call In: (646) 876-9923

### **January 3rd** – *Forward and Backward with Love: A Janus Service* with Rev. Charles Grindle

A short message from Rev. Charlie - Greetings dear ones, I hope a happy holiday was had by all. It's time for our Janus service, and I wanted to offer you who will be with us a suggestion of things to have on hand. I would suggest a pad of paper, a pencil, and a piece of your favorite fruit. I hope many of you will be able to join our soloist, Niki Norman and myself for this service of thought and hope. Blessings, Rev. Charlie

### **January 10<sup>th</sup>** – *What is Magic?* – Rev. Shay MacKay

### **January 17<sup>th</sup>** – *A Closer Look at the Magical Martin Luther King, Jr.* – Rev. Shay MacKay

### **January 24<sup>th</sup>** – *Deep Calls Unto Deep: The Magically Transformative Experience of Mysticism* – Rev. Shay MacKay

### **January 31<sup>st</sup>** – *Faith in Action Sunday* with Rev. Shay MacKay

## ***Rev. Shay's Sharing...***

### **January Theme ~ Magic**

*And above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it.*  
~ Roald Dahl



A couple of years ago, I was fortunate enough to be able to visit Hawaii with my family. On a morning outing to see Waimea Falls, as we walked through the park, an older Hawaiian woman called us over to a small table sitting in the shade of a pop-up tent. Laid on the table before her were various items native to the local culture. She saw me looking at a small flute and picked it up, telling me that it was, “a Hawaiian nose flute.”

I had never heard of such a thing – playing a musical instrument with your nose!?! My surprise must have shown on my face, for she lifted the flute to her face and played a short tune for us.

“Do you know why we play the flute with our noses?” she asked me.

“Our mouths talk. Out of them come all sorts of meanness and nasties, sometimes without even thinking, and then they can’t be taken back. They settle, here, in the heart, hurting, an open wound, forever out there, hurting.”

“With the pureness of our breath,” she continued, “we can soothe, heal, create beauty and put it out into the world.”

I asked, “Can you play and sing at the same time?”

With a great laugh she said, “I’ll try!”

And she tried. And she did play and chant at once, clumsily, beautifully, as we all laughed in joy.

Then she smiled brilliantly and said, “Anything is possible!” and handed me a small woven frond square that sat perfectly in the palm of my hand.

“This is a possibility ball. To remind you anything is possible!”

I thought of an argument I had had that morning.

I thought of the possibility of letting go of words, inadequate and troublesome; the possibility of magically breathing out pureness and truth, apology, compassion, understanding, forgiveness.

I thought of the possibility of breathing in - deeply - peace, light, connection...and breathing out a song of love.

*Continued next page...*

## *Rev. Shay's Sharing Continued...*



### **January Theme ~ Magic**

I thought of magic and mystery, of embracing both and laughing with glee, proclaiming, "I'll try!" when life says, "Anything is possible!"

*"Those who don't believe in magic will never find it."*

I'd like to be one of the people who believes in magic; who believes anything is possible.



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Call to the Mid-Year Meeting of the Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church  
Sunday, January 31, 2021 at 11:15 am. via Zoom.

Information on connecting to this Zoom will be available in January, 2021.

Our goal, as always, will be to involve as many members of the  
congregation as possible.

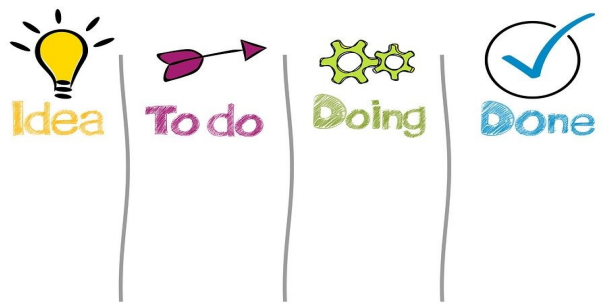
### **Warrant**

Members of the Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church are hereby notified and warned that the Mid-Year Congregational Meeting of said religious society is to be held on Sunday January 31, 2021, with action to be taken on the following:

1. Discussion and vote on updates and revisions to the By-Laws.
2. Replacement of the furnace.
3. Hear from the Congregation in general.

Judi Reis, Clerk of the Church

## Update From Your Board of Management



As you know, the Board continues its monthly meetings via Zoom. At our December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, we spent time discussing and then approving the changes to our church Bylaws, necessitated by last year's decision not to continue with either a church President or Vice-President. You will soon receive an email with the new wording of the proposed changes. Please read it carefully, since all members will be asked to vote on the changes at a Special Meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup>!

Marcel reported that we are financially healthy, except that Pledge donations from members and friends stand at 39% fulfilled; because December marks the midway point in the church's Fiscal Year, that is a bit low, but understandable in these rough times. The good news is that Trust Fund earnings are \$5,000 above predicted amounts. We also continue to pay our entire staff the wages they were promised in the 2020-2021 Budget!

Also on the agenda was the Board's scheduled reevaluation of whether to resume in-person Sunday services, and it was decided to remain on Zoom for the rest of the year for the safety of our congregation.

Two noteworthy Giving Opportunities exist within our church, if you are able to help in any way. The first is a Furnace Replacement Fund. Our good old oil-burning furnace is getting up in years, and will definitely need replacing as soon as possible. Second is the Covid Relief Fund, whose original donor has requested additional donations from congregants able and willing to add to the Fund. After helping many individuals and groups who were impacted by the corona virus pandemic, the account stands at \$31,000 currently.

Finally, please consider volunteering to head our Annual Budget Drive for 2021-2022, which traditionally begins in February and ends in March. This one-time job involves creating a theme for the Drive, writing a newsletter article and upbeat reminders for Friday emails, composing an Appeal Letter to congregants, tallying the pledges as Mona receives them, giving the congregation progress reports, and rounding up a group to help write Thank-You notes to anyone who pledged. Thanks for considering this volunteer opportunity!

Submitted by Diane Whiteside-Peck

## Relief Committee Update for



This Christmas season was especially stressful for families facing hardships brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. Six families struggling with unpaid bills sought help from the SUUC Covid Relief Team during December. A total of \$7,966 was disbursed to catch families up on CMP bills, mortgage payments, home repair bills, rent payments, and storage unit rent.

The plight of these families moves us all. Many are truly desperate and still struggle with asking for help.

Our little team meets weekly by Zoom. Sometimes we make decisions by email, when needs are pressing. We strive to be as responsive as possible and treat all with dignity.

It's been a tough year in so many ways. But even in our disconnected state when so much has been suspended, the work goes on. Church members should feel proud that the church is making a real difference.

-- Lee Burnett for the Covid Relief Team.

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### **CLYNK Bottle and Can Return at Hannaford**

Money generated through this program is picked up throughout the year and goes into our fundraising line. Please pick up a CLYNK bag at the church for your returnable cans and bottles, the bags are located on a table in Goodall Hall for your convenience. You may also contact the office and have CLYNK bags mailed to you if you prefer. Please save only the cans and bottles that are redeemable. You may drop your CLYNK bag off at any Hannaford offering this incentive or at the church. Thank you to everyone for participating in this recycling program, we can all make a difference!

## Stuff the Bus

(Article reprinted with permission from Wanda Parent)

This year's Stuff the Bus Maine's campaign, was profoundly affected by Covid. We could not hold our supply donation drives at Wal-Mart, which accounted for 90 percent of our programs supplies collection, which we use to help an estimated 4,000 York County students. We were essentially dead-in the water. I was contacted by Strategies for a Stronger Sanford program, and encouraged to apply for a grant thru the Sanford Unitarian churches, Covid 19 relief fund. This fund was created to help organizations like mine whose important work, was deeply affected by the Global Pandemic. As a result of this Stuff the Bus Maine received a grant for 10,000 dollars. This was the beginning of something magical and a game changer for my program. We went from not planning to do anything to handing out over 400 backpacks, so far. We also purchased Ukuleles for an entire 4th grade music class, whom because of Covid can't do recorders or Chorus this year. We are deeply grateful to the Sanford Unitarian Church for their generosity, and have chosen them as the recipient of the, 2020 Stuff the Bus award! Congratulations, we can never express how much this gift has meant to our program and the children and teachers we help! It was the beginning of us raising \$22,474 so far this year which is amazing, we come from a caring and strong community, that rises above even the challenges of a global Pandemic.



## Corner Cupboard Update

The CC has been distributing items through a number of avenues, despite having its doors closed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month. Items were donated to the Meals on Wheels program in southern York County. The SCAE complete pantry receives deliveries of non-food items as needed. The Sanford trash bag distribution got the RE kids involved. Unfortunately only about 10 packs were given out. The rest will be distributed in other ways. Personal care items were delivered to The Salvation Army for the teens who receive holiday stockings. We also continue to receive and deliver individual orders by CC clients, or those referred to us by case workers, social workers, or general assistance directors. - Judi Reis



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!  
All ye good  
citizens  
of our kingdom!  
Hold the date!



The UU Church of Saco & Biddeford and the Sanford UU Church are **UUniting** to offer a virtual candlelight concert featuring talented performers of both churches. Their words and songs will be woven in and around a story about

**Living in a Time of Change.**

The MC of this special concert will be Rev. Shay MacKay.

**When?** Saturday, January 16, 2021

**Time?** 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Where?** Online link available in January

**Cost?** Join us in community - all are welcome! Pay as you wish and are able.  
Donations accepted through PayPal and check.

We would love to have you and your family and friends join us virtually. Look for more information in January at

<http://www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com/> and

<http://www.sanforduuchurch.org/>

For questions, please feel free to contact us directly for more information at [info@sanforduuchurch.org](mailto:info@sanforduuchurch.org)





## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION**

**Virtual Brown Bag Suppers with Rev. Shay – Every Wednesday from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Zoom.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81893512813> (New Zoom link)

Meeting ID: 818 9351 2813

**Weekly Vespers Services – Every Thursday from 7:00 pm to 7:30pm on Zoom.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83734173380>

Meeting ID: 837 3417 3380

Call In: (646) 876-9923

**Coffee Hour with your Board Members and Rev. Shay – Every Sunday after our worship service, join**

Rev. Shay and members of your Board of Trustees on Zoom for small group discussions based around the monthly theme, that day's sermon, and other relevant topics from your lives. Here is the zoom link for our Sunday services and Coffee Hour:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2399631729>

Meeting ID: 239 963 1729

Call In: (646) 876-9923

**The Soul of Aging with Rev. Shay – Every Tuesday from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84624720782>

Meeting ID: 846 2472 0782

Call In: (646) 876-9923

## Announcing a Mini Fundraiser!

We are all familiar with The Three Ws to help stop the spread of Covid-19: Wash your hands; Watch your distance; Wear a Mask. And since we all need masks, why not sell masks as a fundraiser for our yoked churches?

Here's how you can participate: on a slip of paper, indicate your name and phone number and how many masks you'd like, specify a preference for one of the colors pictured here or state that you will take any color, and send \$15 per mask to the Sanford UU Church, 5 Lebanon Street, Sanford, 04073. As simply as that, you have completed your order. Your mask(s) will be matched to your color preference as closely as possible, then bagged and labeled with your name, ready for pick-up at the church. Diane will call you about a pick-up time at the Sanford church, so having your phone number on the order is essential. UUCSB orders and their share of the proceeds will be brought to the Saco church, and Jan will help to coordinate those pick-ups.



Order as many masks at \$15 each as you'd like! Give them as gifts or wear one yourself! Each mask is lovingly sewn by a church member with four layers of 100% cotton fabric and elastic ear loops. We are so grateful to our generous Mask Maker for donating all work and materials, making it possible for all proceeds to go directly to the two churches!

Be sure to make a note on your check that this is for the Mask Fundraiser. Also indicate if you need your order filled especially quickly. Fundraiser will run through the first half of January. Please contact Diane Whiteside-Peck (207-337-0014) with any questions. Happy Holidays, stay healthy, and thanks!



## SUUC Book Group

The Book Group will meet by Zoom on Friday, January 8, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. Karen Nelson will lead the meeting. We will discuss *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson.

Gripping, tragic, and densely atmospheric- a masterpiece of suspense. San Piedro Island, north of Puget Sound, is a place so isolated that no one who lives there can afford to make enemies. But in 1954 a local fisherman is found suspiciously drowned, and a Japanese American named Kabuo Miyamoto is charged with his murder. In the course of the ensuing trial, it becomes clear that what is at stake is more than a man's guilt. For on San Pedro, memories of a charmed love affair between a white boy and the Japanese girl who grew up to become Kabuo's wife; memories of land desired, paid for, and lost. Above all, San Piedro is haunted by the memory of what happened to its Japanese residents during World War II, when an entire community was sent into exile while its neighbors watched.

Please let Karen know ([karenhnelson77@gmail.com](mailto:karenhnelson77@gmail.com)) if you'd like to be invited to the Zoom meeting.

## Board 2020-2021

**Vice President:** Karen Nelson - June 30, 2021

**Clerk:** Judi Reis - June 30, 2022

**Financial Secretary:** Ginny Howe - June 30, 2022

**Treasurer:** Marcel Gagnon - June 30, 2021

**Liaisons:** Janie Waterhouse - June 30, 2023, Natasha Nolan Parker - June 30, 2022, Diane Whiteside-Peck - June 30, 2021

**DREs:** Ryan and Mesha Quinn

## Church Leadership 2020-2021

Building and Grounds: Marcel Gagnon

Capital Projects Building Committee: Howard Dupee, Bill Ouellette

Choir:

Church Historian: Helen Kane

Corner Cupboard: Peg Sawyer, Judi Reis, Dee Ames, Helen Kane, Marcel Gagnon

Covenant of Right Relations Team: Aileen Fortune, Melody Wood, Lee Burnett, Karen Nelson, Rev. Shay

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: Peg Sawyer, Art Dumas, Howard Dupee

Members and Friends: Tonia Chase

Ministerial Relations Team: Tom Huber, Dee Ames

Music Committee Chair: Melody Wood

Nominating Committee: Deb Folsom

Stewardship:

Women's Alliance: Nancy Farnham

Worship: Rev. Shay MacKay

Worship Associates: Rev. Shay MacKay, Patty Kidder, Mesha Quinn, Tom Huber, Beverly Brent, Jan Sacco, Georgia Renfro

**Rev. Shay's Schedule** - Monday is Writing Day, with limited availability. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday completely available to you, please email, text or call to set up an appointment time! Friday is day off, emergency availability only. Saturday on call for pre-scheduled meetings and events; available for emergencies. Sunday is Worship and Coffee Hour. Email [revshaymackay@gmail.com](mailto:revshaymackay@gmail.com) Phone/text 207-518-8059 Rev. Shay is on vacation through January 3rd.

**Administrative Office Hours** - Church office is closed due to pandemic, working from home - [info@sanforduuchurch.org](mailto:info@sanforduuchurch.org) Email anytime, always available

**Co-Directors of Religious Education** - Mesha and Ryan Quinn - [dre@sanforduuchurch.org](mailto:dre@sanforduuchurch.org)

## Our Sister Church

Visit our sister church's website at  
<http://www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com/>

## Newsletter Deadlines for 2020-2021 FY

January 25th for February newsletter

February 22nd for March newsletter

March 22nd for April newsletter

April 26th for May newsletter

May 24th for June newsletter

June 21st for July newsletter

**WE'RE  
TEMPORARILY  
CLOSED**

