



Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church

UU NOTES Volume XLIV

February 2021, Issue 8

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

February 7th Service – *Why Do We Need a Covenant?* With Rev. Jessica Clay and the First Parish Brewster UU Church. This is Rev. Shay's Sunday away, and you are warmly invited to attend FPBUU's service that day to hear her good friend and colleague, Rev. Jessica Clay preach on the importance of covenants within our churches. This is a great opportunity to see how other churches worship and hear what messages other UUs are sharing these days! **Sunday, February 7th at 10:00 a.m. First Parish Brewster UU Church** <https://zoom.us/j/899300451> or via phone (301) 715-8592 (Meeting ID: 899 300 451) ***After the worship service, you are invited to join in our own coffee hour chat at our regular Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/2399631729>

February 14th Service – *Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday: Lenten Promises* with Rev. Shay

February 21st Service – *The Promise and the Practice: An All Ages Service* with Rev. Shay

February 28th Service – *Walking the Rainbow Path* with Rev. Shay



Rev. Shay's Sharing...

February Theme ~ Promises

Be Here Now by Shay MacKay

Be here now.
Here.
In this space;
This time and place.

Breathe in...
And let yourself relax into the arms of this circle.

Plant your feet in the solid strength of this holy ground,
Feel it hold you.
Feel it mold your body into something sacred.

Feel Energy, Spirit, Light moving through you, moving through all things,
Collecting and connecting moments in time -

Bringing us closer
To the earth that is holding us,
To the air that is lifting us,
To the water that baptizes us in the name of Love,
And to the fire of our shared commitment to justice, compassion, trust, respect.

Beloveds, plant your feet, raise your eyes to the sky,
and know your body is sacred,
your heart is holy,
your soul is whole.

May the Spirit that moves through all things,
Move through us now;
May we flow into the love and abundance this creation offers us;
And may that which is holy and true flow out of us,
Into this beautiful, broken world.



January's Virtual Candlelight Concert

This is not a fairytale. The reality is that our concert is over. Taking with them a message of hope, attendees signed off Zoom as the last poetic word was spoken, as the musical notes drifted away, as the candles flickered and faded. This was success - our first virtual concert and the first concert in which we collaborated with our Sister Church in Sanford.

Our live MC, Rev. Shay, shared a powerful message of hope before introducing our pre-recorded talented performers. And talented writers and musicians they were. They spoke poetry, read, sang, played the piano, harp, ukulele, cello, guitar, and more. They performed solos, duets, and small group offerings.

We missed having a live audience - seeing smiles and hearing applause. We did, however, receive positive emails and texts – not only from church members, but from invited folks as far away as Florida.

This concert created connections during a time of isolation. It offered hope during dark days. And it raised needed funds for our two churches. Thank you to those who organized and provided technical help. Thanks to our MC and all our performers. And thanks to those who attended and who made donations. This was a UUnited effort!

Ellie, Jan, and Donna

Comments from Concert Attendees:

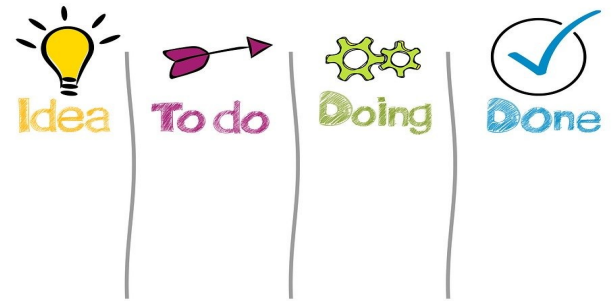
entertaining and much appreciated.
liked the theme of HOPE
did not realize there would be such a variety of music and poetry.
I would watch it again.
beautiful and calming.
So many very talented and spiritual individuals giving their time
Your minister is very charismatic.
AWESOME. INCREDIBLE. SO CREATIVE. SO MUCH FUN. SO THOUGHTFUL. THANK YOU A MILLION THANK YOUS.

The link to view the concert is below. If you wish to donate, we are gratefully continuing to receive donations by mail.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gln32PG8Auk&feature=youtu.be>



Update From Your Board of Management



The Board met on January 11 with three main items on our agenda:

- 1) Fundraising/Jan Sacco;
- 2) Mid-year meeting; and
- 3) Pledge drive committee.

1) Jan Sacco, chair of the Fundraising Committee joined us for a discussion about the Board's priorities for fundraising. It is especially challenging to hold fundraising events when we are not gathering in person and Jan wonders where/how to focus fundraising efforts. At the end of our conversation, we all agreed that congregants who have ideas for fundraisers should first contact the liaison to the fundraising committee, Janie Waterhouse, who will bring ideas to the full board, then Jan, if the idea seems doable. You can reach Janie by text at (207) 432-3021 or email at janieswaterhouse@gmail.com.

2) The mid-year meeting will follow Sunday's service on 1/31 and last one hour or less. An update to the By-Laws is the main item for discussion and approval. So far, no one has contacted Karen Nelson with feedback on the proposed updates. The other part of our meeting is open to input from the congregation about church in the time of Covid.

3) The pledge drive. So far, we are pretty much on target with expenses and revenues which is great. The pledge drive for '21-'22 church year begins in March. In addition to the needs we have every year, the furnace has to be replaced. More information will be coming. - Janie Waterhouse

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Mask Fundraiser Update

Many thanks to all who have purchased Natasha's colorful double-layered masks. To date, the church has gleaned \$300 from this mini-fundraiser, and there are still PLENTY of masks available! Please consider buying one or several. These masks will comfortably and effectively protect you and others from the viral visitor which has definitely overstayed its welcome. Write either UUCSB or SUUC on the Pay To line of your check, and "mask fundraiser" on the Memo line.

Address your envelope to Sanford UU Church, 5 Lebanon Street, Sanford, 04073, and include a short note with your name, telephone number, and the number of masks you want. THANK YOU!



Relief Committee Update for



During the month of January, the Covid Relief team continued to meet each Thursday evening via Zoom to discuss requests received. We approved one individual's request to catch up with car payments. With three individuals, our funds paid back rent: in one instance, a person had a pending eviction hearing caused by losing in-home work due to the virus, but with our help and that of General Assistance was able to remain in their home; two other individuals were homeless and needed a boost to turn their life around, and the team hopes we have helped them toward that goal as they are now employed and in their own apartment. Judi was asked if the Corner Cupboard might give items and clothing to these people also, and her team came through wonderfully.

We are very grateful to two members of the church who have generously donated to the Fund this month. Our original donor, who was thanked last week with a basket of goodies from the congregation, also appreciates and encourages additional donations, if you are able to do so. (Please make a note that your check is intended for the Covid Relief Fund.) And do not hesitate to contact Pat, Lee, Lindsay, or myself if you need funds, or know of someone who does. May you all remain warm and well through the winter months!

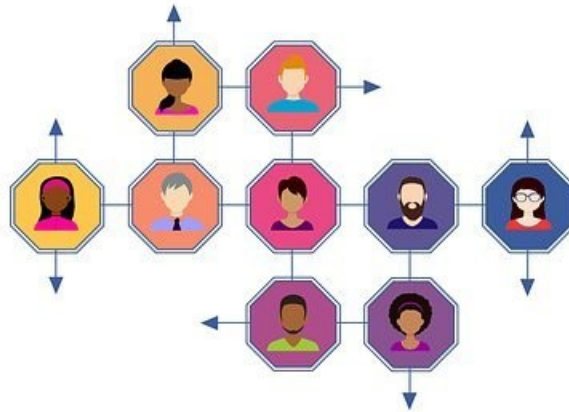
~Diane Whiteside-Peck for the team



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. **In light of the pandemic, you may contact the church 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 your participation in this recycling program, we can all make a difference!



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

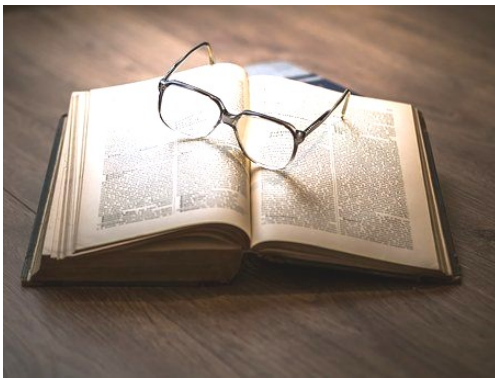
Call In: (646) 876-9923

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



Sanford UU Church Book Group

The book group will meet by Zoom on Friday February 12th at 4:30 p.m.

We will discuss:

Radical Hope: Ethics in the Face of Cultural Devastation by Jonathan Lear

Shortly before he died, Plenty Coups, the last great Chief of the Crow Nation, told his story—up to a certain point. “When the buffalo went away the hearts of my people fell to the ground,” he said, “and they could not lift them up again. After this nothing happened.” It is precisely this point—that of a people faced with the end of their way of life—that prompts the philosophical and ethical inquiry pursued in *Radical Hope*. In Jonathan Lear’s view, Plenty Coups’s story raises a profound ethical question that transcends his time and challenges us all: how should one face the possibility that one’s culture might collapse?

This is a vulnerability that affects us all—insofar as we are all inhabitants of a civilization, and civilizations are themselves vulnerable to historical forces. How should we live with this vulnerability? Can we make any sense of facing up to such a challenge courageously? Using the available anthropology and history of the Indian tribes during their confinement to reservations, and drawing on philosophy and psychoanalytic theory, Lear explores the story of the Crow Nation at an impasse as it bears upon these questions—and these questions as they bear upon our own place in the world. His book is a deeply revealing, and deeply moving, philosophical inquiry into a peculiar vulnerability that goes to the heart of the human condition.

Please let Karen know karenhnelson77@gmail.com if you’d like to be invited to the Zoom meeting.

Annual Budget Drive

Please consider volunteering to head our Annual Budget Drive for 2021-2022, which begins very soon! 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. Please contact a Board member if you are interested in heading the Annual Budget Drive this year. Thank you for considering this volunteer opportunity!



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: David Agan, Jan Sacco

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 Phone/text 207-518-8059

Administrative Office Hours - Church office is closed due to pandemic, working from home - info@sanforduuchurch.org
Email anytime, always available, any time, any day

Co-Directors of Religious Education - Mesha and Ryan Quinn - dre@sanforduuchurch.org

Our Sister Church

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

Newsletter Deadlines for 2020-2021 FY

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

