



# Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church

## UU NOTES Volume XLIV

### April 2021, Issue 10

Sanford UU Church  
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facebook.com/  
Website: [sanfordunitarianuniversalist](http://sanfordunitarianuniversalistchurch/)  
church/  
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

**April 4th** – *Practicing Resurrection: Easter Sunday* with Rev. Shay

**April 11th** – *Speak Truth to Power* with Rev. Shay

**April 18th** – Earth Day with Rev. Shay: *Pathways to Healing & Regeneration*, A service prepared by the UU Ministry for Earth - When you imagine pathways to personal, social and ecological healing and regeneration, what do you see? Who is with you on your journey? What transforms and gives way to new beginnings? Who and/or what are you accountable to along the way? Featuring a sermon by Rev. Yadene Hailu (she/her), who is an Ethiopian American, black woman based in Tulsa, OK. Her community ministry, blk earth, is a love letter to the earth and black people inviting all carbon life to return to rest and right-relationship as its baseline. She believes life's first mandate is to flourish and its second is to heal.

**April 25th** – A service led by Patty Kidder from SUUC and Worship Associates from both churches.



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

### April Theme ~ Truth

*From NPR Book Reviews:* "Writing a one-volume history of the United States is, obviously, a daunting task. There's way too much to pack into one book. Lepore acknowledges that she's not able to cover everything: 'No one could. Much is missing in these pages.' She has chosen to look at America through the lens of the promises America has made to itself, and whether we've kept them."

**Following is an excerpt from the epilogue of Jill Lapore's 2018 book *These Truths: A History of the United States*.**

Can a people govern themselves by reflection and choice? Hamilton had wanted to know, or are they fated to be ruled, forever, by accident and force, lashed by the violence of each wave of a surging sea?

The ship of state lurched and reeled. Liberals, blown down by the slightest breeze, had neglected to trim the ship's sails, leaving the canvas to flap and tear in a rising wind, the rigging flailing. Huddled below decks, they had failed to plot a course, having lost sight of the horizon and their grasp on any compass. On deck, conservatives had pulled up the ship's planking to make bonfires of rage: they had courted the popular will by demolishing the idea of truth itself, smashing the ship's very mast.

It would fall to a new generation of Americans, reckoning what their forebears had wrought, to fathom the depths of the doom-black sea. If they meant to repair the tattered ship, they would need to fell the most majestic pine in a deer-haunted forest and raise a new mast that could pierce the clouded sky. With sharpened adzes, they would have to hew timbers of cedar and oak into planks, straight and true. They would need to drive home nails with the untiring swing of mighty arms and, with needles held tenderly in nimble fingers stitch new sails out of the rugged canvas of their goodwill. Knowing that heat and sparks and hammers and anvils are not enough, they would have to forge an anchor in the glowing fire of their ideals. And to steer that ship through wind and wave, they would need to learn an ancient and nearly forgotten art: how to navigate by the stars.

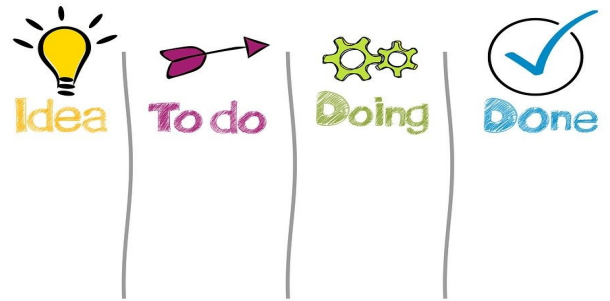
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### **Beautiful Handmade Masks Still Available**

We still have a lovely selection of Natasha's colorful double-layered masks for sale. 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, your telephone number, and the number of masks you would like.

Thank you to all who have made a purchase!





## Update From Your Board of Management

Our March Board meeting took place on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Marcel filled us in on research that is being done in preparation for replacing the furnace. Marcel, Bill Ouellette, Howard Dupee, and Jeremy (who has held an important role in keeping our current furnace functioning) have been looking into options that may be more environmentally friendly than just replacing one furnace with another furnace. Cost is certainly a factor, but long-term savings will also be a factor. We will keep you posted with progress.

There will be a Zoom meeting with UU Regional Staff for our Board on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, for UUCSB's Board on March 24<sup>th</sup>, and jointly with both Boards on Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. The topic of discussion is sustainable ministry – which includes our partnership with UUCSB and our support of Rev. Shay.

The Board decided that going forward, we will conduct most Board meetings virtually, especially in the winter. Since we have been meeting online, we have found that we are well able to carry on the work of the church remotely.

The Nominating Committee will be looking to fill 3 positions on the Board (1 liaison, and 2 at large members), and 1 Nominating Committee position. If you are interested in knowing more about the Board and our collaborative model, please reach out to one of us (Marcel Gagnon, Ginny Howe, Karen Nelson, Natasha Nolan, Judi Reis, Janie Waterhouse, Diane Whiteside-Peck) [Karen, and Diane's terms expire in June 2021 and an at large position is being added.]

It is encouraging to hear that many in our congregation are in the process of being vaccinated against COVID-19. There have also been some other cautiously optimistic signs that we will have fewer restrictions in the coming months. It is important that we continue to observe guidance from our medical and scientific community, while being mindful of our own feelings as we go out into the world.

I am grateful that Spring is here! Looking forward to seeing you soon. Ginny

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## Academic Competition

*Printed from The Portland Press Herald Article - March 16th Edition*

Noble High Students win in academic competition: Four Noble High School students are winners in the Academic World Quest competition by the World Affairs Council. Team members Sofia Dillon, Sage Study, Ryan Menter, and team captain Rain Bugado now move on to represent Maine in the national competition in April.

We at SUUC send our congratulations!

## Sanford UU Church Book Group

The book group will meet Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. on Zoom. We will discuss *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson.

It has been ten years since Wilkerson's award-winning *The Warmth of Other Suns* was published. While that book pointed to the great migration of Black people to the north as an "unrecognized migration," this new book points to our entire social structure as an unrecognized caste system.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson says racism is an insufficient term for the systemic oppression of Black people in America. Instead, she prefers to refer to America as having a "caste" system.

Wilkerson describes caste as an artificial hierarchy that helps determine standing and respect, assumptions of beauty and competence, and even who gets benefit of the doubt and access to resources. "Caste focuses in on the infrastructure of our divisions and the rankings, whereas race is the metric that's used to determine one's place in that," she says.

Wilkerson notes that the concept of caste has been around for thousands of years: "[Caste] predates the idea of race, which is ... only 400 or 500 years old, dating back to the transatlantic slave trade." Caste, she adds, "is the term that is more precise [than race]; it is more comprehensive, and it gets at the underlying infrastructure that often we cannot see, but that is there undergirding much of the inequality and injustices and disparities that we live with in this country."

Karen will host the book group. She has two copies of the book available to anyone who would like to borrow them. Contact her at [karenhnelson77@gmail.com](mailto:karenhnelson77@gmail.com) if you would like to borrow a copy of the book and/or be added to the Zoom invitation list.



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### **“New to UU” Class Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Zoom**

Are you interested in learning about the history of Unitarian Universalism? Do you want to learn more about Sanford UU and UU of Saco/Biddeford? If you answered “yes” to any of those questions, the New to UU class is for you, and we’d LOVE to have you join us! Led by Rev. Shay, this is a time to ask all the questions you may have about Unitarian Universalism and church life. At the end of the class, you’ll be invited to become a new member. You’re also welcome to join at any point after the class. Even better, if you want to vote in either church’s Annual Meeting in June, this is your chance! You need to be a member for 30 days before you can become a full voting member. This is an exciting way to have a say in the life of YOUR church. Current members are also welcome to take this class! Shay MacKay is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: New to UU Class Time: April 11, 2021 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84707264599>

Meeting ID: 847 0726 4599

# Your Weekly Pledge Oximeter Reading

Open for Business!

## Final Week



I do hope you all had as much fun watching our pledge oximeter rise as I did in creating it!  
Its timeliness was irresistible! Well, there you have it, the final tally of your collective generosity:  
99% of our oxygenation-sustaining goal.

\$52,593 .00

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.



Sincerely, Helen K.



## Relief Committee Update for



The Covid Relief Fund team ordinarily meets each Thursday via Zoom. However, because no new requests were received for March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 18<sup>th</sup>, the team did not meet. One new request came in this week, for an individual's car repairs, and it was approved by sharing emails among the team. We are dedicated to the mission of this fund: to help groups or individuals meet financial debt incurred by the pandemic, and each of us is grateful for the chance to complete this mission. As always, if you know of anyone or any group that has been financially impacted by the pandemic, please suggest they contact our Fund. Email Pat, Diane, Lee, or Lindsay to access our simple Request Form. The help you need comes quickly and easily, and in a confidential, respectful manner. Thank you from the team!

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### **Music Notes from Choir Director, Ellie R.**

The 'BiChoir' is wrapping up the first quarter of 2021. We're taking a couple of weeks off rehearsals while we complete our Easter Video, a beautiful song called 'Blessing' by Lui Collins. Although not rehearsing together the 'BiChoir' will also be recording some audio tracks of 'Come, Come Whoever You Are' and 'Gathered Here'. We will return from rehearsals on April 11<sup>th</sup>. We have a wonderful Earth Day Medley we're preparing for Earth Day and a multi-part version of 'Simple Gifts' for a service in May.

Are you enticed? Do you love to sing? All are welcome who love to sing or who want to be involved with our Music Ministry.

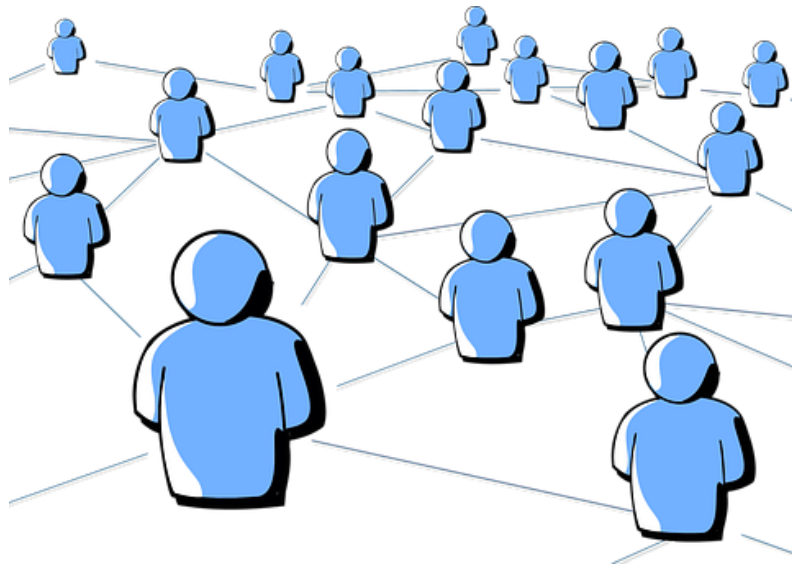
We rehearse on Sunday mornings at 11:30. Upcoming rehearsals are: April 11, 18 and 25. In addition to music mentioned above we'll be working on songs for Mother's Day. We continue to rehearse via Zoom until it is safe for us to gather again in person.

For more information, please contact me via my email in the church directory or send an email to the church (uuchurch@gwi.net) and Brian will forward it to me.

**May 9<sup>th</sup> – Music Sunday!**

Do you sing or play an instrument or have a reading about music that you'd like to share? The May 9<sup>th</sup> service will feature our talented musicians and writers. Contact Ellie or Rev. Shay if you'd like to participate.





### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION**

*Rev. Shay will be on Study Leave from Sunday, April 25th through Sunday, May 2nd. There will be no gatherings during that week (brown bag, soul of aging, vespers). All normal activities will commence on Monday, May 3rd.*

**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

## 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, Deb Folsom

Stewardship: Helen Kane

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 will be on Study Leave from Sunday, April 25th through Sunday, May 2nd. There will be no gatherings during that week (brown bag, soul of aging, vespers). All normal activities will commence on Monday, May 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, any time, any day.

## Our Sister Church

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

## Newsletter Deadlines for 2021

### Our FY ends June 30, 2021

April 26th for May newsletter

May 24th for June newsletter

June 21st for July newsletter

