



THE COMMON

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF CASTINE

July 2022

A Month of Sundays - July 2022 Sources of Inspiration and Faith

- July 3rd Colin Powell, Worship Leader
Our Communities
Colleen Fitzgerald, Musician
- July 10th Rev. Margaret Beckman, Worship Leader
American Transcendentalism – Black and White
Colleen Fitzgerald, Musician
- July 17th Rev. Margaret Beckman, Worship Leader
“Who do you say I am?”
Paul Kelly, Musician & Organist
- July 24th Rev. Margaret Beckman, Worship Leader
Good without God
Colleen Fitzgerald, Musician
- July 31st Rev. Margaret Beckman, Worship Leader
Finding our Prophetic Voices
Musician tba



Our Mission

To establish and promote an open and welcoming congregation that supports and sustains the spiritual, ethical, intellectual and overall well-being of our members while serving our broader communities.

Contact Us

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207-326-9083 • Email: office@uucastine.org
Website: uucastine.org • “Like” us on Facebook

For questions or comments about The Common or to submit items for this newsletter, please contact Debbie Morehouse office@uucastine.org.

Lakeside Reflections July 2022



Watercolor by Rod McIver

We knew it was coming. They told us it would be bad. It's not that we didn't believe it. We just couldn't fathom the cruelty and the disrespect; the utter disregard for the lives of pregnant people facing an impossibly heart-breaking situation. On Friday, when the news of the Supreme Court decision in the Dobbs case came, we were shaken to our core. There are still No Words for how devastating this decision is and will be for so many people.

The poets and the musicians say with their art what we all may be feeling and still are unable to talk about calmly and honestly. The Rev Lynn Ungar was one of the first to offer words on that horrible day. I offer her words here for you for whatever value you can find here. We will figure out what to do in the coming days.

Namaste, *Margaret*

Today

You are not wrong to be furious.
 You are not wrong to be scared.
 You are not wrong to wonder what
 we do today and tomorrow and tomorrow.
 You are not wrong to notice
 the brilliance of the sky.
 You are not wrong to think
 of your daughter.
 You are not wrong to imagine
 people you will never know.
 You are not wrong to think
This doesn't really affect me
 and to know it really does.
 You are not wrong to look for
 pictures of puppies or kittens
 or flowers or trees.
 You are not wrong to try to massage
 the ache out of your own heart.
 You are not wrong to yell
 or cry or scream or hide
 under the covers in your bed.
 You are not wrong to turn
 to your neighbor and say
What do we do now?



—Lynn Ungar 6-24-22





UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

Thank You for this General Assembly!

All three Actions of Immediate Witness were affirmed by the General Assembly. View the full results on uua.simplyvoting.com.

An Action of Immediate Witness (AIW) is a statement about a significant action, event, or development in the world that necessitates immediate engagement and action among UU member congregations and groups.

An AIW must:

- Pertain to an issue that requires immediate action
- Call on UUA member congregations and groups to take specific meaningful action
- Present an opportunity for member congregations to build partnership and/or act in solidarity with marginalized groups beyond and within the association
- Be grounded in UU theology and practice
- Be crafted in anti-oppressive and inclusive language that is conducive to justice

At the 2022 General Assembly, we affirmed three AIWs. More information about how congregations can get involved will be coming in the next couple of months. Get started now by following the links to each of the three AIWs.

As a reminder, the Actions of Immediate Witness that were affirmed are:

- [AIW 1: We Do Not Consent: Rejecting Legal Challenges to Abortion](#)
- [AIW 2: Anti-Racism and Reparations](#)
- [AIW 3: Stop Privatization of Medicine](#)

Let's gather our resources and put our resources and our actions where our faith is leading us.

Our Bell

A word about our bell which will ring throughout Castine on July 4th and on Sunday mornings. The Meeting House was constructed in 1790, but wasn't completed until after the interior was finished in 1797. As part of that project, a bell was installed. A 692 pound-bell, cast in Boston in 1802 by Paul Revere, was attached to the tower in 1804. In 1831 or 1832, the original bell was replaced by a larger bell weighing 996 pounds purchased from the Revere Company (probably made by Revere's son, Joseph Warren Revere) at a cost of \$335. Credit for the original bell that was returned to Revere brought the cost of the new bell down to \$189.



Breaking Bread
Saturday, July 9, 4:30 p.m.

Food, hunger and family will be the focus of a reception and readings by eight writers.

The essays by writers, Jenny Bicks, Hal Crowther, Ron Currie, Wes McNair, Cathie Pelletier, Kate Russo, Lee Smith and Georgia Zildjian, are among the 70 essays included in *Breaking Bread* which focus on food and how it sustains us -mind, body and soul. The book was edited and collected by Castine writer and Blue Angel founder Deborah Joy Corey and Colby College professor and writer Debra Spark, who also contributed essays to the collection.

Celebrate | Eight Writers | July 9, 2022 | Castine, Maine

BREAKING BREAD

Essays from New England on Food, Hunger, and Family



Jenny Bicks



Hal Crowther



Ron Currie



Wes McNair



Cathie Pelletier



Kate Russo



Lee Smith



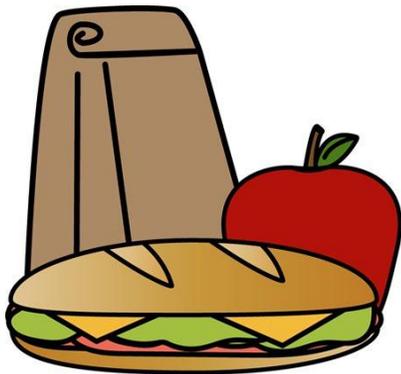
Georgia Zildjian

“Meet the Authors and Book Signing” reception, sponsored by Blue Angel and the Friends of the Witherle Memorial Library, will begin at 4:30 p.m. on the Castine Common. The reception will be followed at 5:30 p.m. by author readings at the **Unitarian Universalist Sanctuary**. Todd Nelson will introduce the authors.

Compass Rose Books, Castine’s Independent Bookstore, will sell copies of *Breaking Bread* before and after the reading during which authors will be available to sign books.

Free and all are welcome. Space is limited and reservations are required. To reserve tickets please go to tinyurl.com/56y227hy. For more information please contact the library at 326-4375.

July 8 - No Neighbor Left Behind



Join the crew to create, bag, and deliver our annual July Italian sub, chips, & fruit meal! We will meet at the UCC meeting room at 1 p.m. and begin our sub assembly line. We have individual bags of chips and Emma is making a fruited jello for dessert—all to be bagged in large, heavy-weight paper lunch bags. I think our meal count may have reached 130. Let me know if you can participate and in what capacity.

Johanna Sweet (326-4924)





The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Castine governing board hereby invites you and your guests to celebrate. It's summer in Castine and we are in our Meeting House and Parish House on Sunday mornings.

Celebration you ask? What might we be celebrating?

Let me count the ways.

Let's celebrate ourselves.

Let's celebrate Unitarian Universalism in Castine for 200+ years.

Let's celebrate our ability to gather for worship.

Let's celebrate our friendships.

Let's celebrate our community.

Let's celebrate how we support our broader communities.

There is so much to celebrate. Mark your calendars for **July 17th** at 10:30 a.m. to gather for worship with potluck following. The governing board will provide the entrees, please help round out the meal by bringing a salad or dessert. Simple beverages will be provided.

If you would like local transportation, please call the church office at 326-9083.

