



The Common July 2018

Collaborative Ministry Joint Worship Service

By Lynn Parsons

On Sunday, June 3, the three Unitarian Universalist Congregations (Belfast, Castine, and Ellsworth) held their annual collaborative service at the newly-designed church in Belfast. The weather was brilliant, the music was exquisite, and the service inspiring. It began with the noting of the passing of both Margaret's mother and Kent Price.

Although small in number, the Castine UUs were well-represented, not only as participants in the service, but in proportion to our total membership. About twenty of us made the journey, some of whom participated in the "pickup choir," led by Belfast pianist Steve Weston. Colin Powell preached a mini-sermon on the general theme of collaboration and its benefits. Board president Leslie Fairbank participated in a tribute to our intern, Amy Fiorelli, and Amy delivered a departing sermon that was both humorous and moving at the same time.

The congregation then adjourned to enjoy a picnic and to congratulate all those who had contributed to the service's success.



July Sunday Service Calendar

July 1st Colin Powell and Lynn Parsons

Colleen Fitzgerald, Musician

July 8th Rev. Margaret Beckman

Ann Boudreaux, Musician

Witherley Consort, Special Music Guests

July 15th Rev. Margaret Beckman

Ann Boudreaux, Musician

July 22nd Rev. Margaret Beckman and

Barbara Royal, Exec. Director of Open Door Recovery Center—an Opportunity Fund partner

Ann Boudreaux, Musician

July 29th David Jerrett

Ann Boudreaux, Musician



It's that time of year again. The Farmers Market is on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. on the Town Common. We open the Parish House so vendors and customers have a restroom if necessary.

President's Desk**Leslie Fairbank**

The Summer Solstice approaches. There are fireflies over the meadow. Peonies, lemon lilies and indigo are in bloom. Stan and Virginia Bourne have welcomed us all to Moss Acre for the annual "picnic". Always the social highlight of the UUCC year, it was lovely to see seasonal and year-round folks enjoying the veranda and garden as well as the shared goodies. Many thanks to the Bournes, including Fred and Sally, for their gracious hospitality.



We welcomed our guest speaker, Tracey Hair of H.O.M.E., Inc. and partner, Julia. Tracey had shared with us, not only some of her own compelling story, but also some of the ways she and her board have used funds from our Opportunity Fund financial gift. H.O.M.E. is involved in helping the homeless and also the working poor. Two such formerly homeless families have been assisted with down payments in purchasing their homes. Another is in progress. A playground is being built for children in the family shelter. Tracey stressed the necessity of involving the people in determining and carrying out the various projects. She is offering a tour on June 26th to interested UUCC folks. There are many different pieces of the H.O.M.E. mission.

Another effort, supported by UUCC through the Collaborative Ministry, is headed by Robin Lovrien of Ellsworth UU. This will provide help to migrant blueberry farmworkers. Toiletries, gloves, shoes, warm clothing, bedding, etc., will be gathered and distributed at three sites. Items can be left at the Meeting House and will be delivered to Ellsworth before July 31st. Volunteer helpers are needed, too.

As we celebrate the joys of summer with various family gatherings, let us keep in mind the larger human family and the ways we can reach out through our Opportunity Fund Committee, the Collaborative Ministry, and our Castine lunch project headed by Brooke Tenney.

Warm regards to all, Leslie

Religious Education**Kay Hansen****Summer Activities:**

For the summer (July and August), we plan for a more informal program of games and activities that help us share and interact with each other. We hope to have fun while we "learn together and search for what is true." Our focus will be on multicultural activities, specifically exploring some of the traditions and festivals of The Philippines. Activities may include making food, playing games and working on craft projects.



Tom will be with his family in Texas this summer. Joining us again for July and August is Chad Davis. Also helping out this summer while I am visiting family in Pennsylvania, is Johanna Sweet. Thanks so much to both of you for your help.

**Ferry Beach Retreat, October 26-28, 2018**

Registration has begun for Ferry Beach Retreat. It will continue until August 26th, at which time we will need to let Ferry Beach know how many people from Castine Church will be attending. A non-refundable \$25.00 registration fee is due at registration. The balance is due September 30th.

A schedule of activities is planned for adults and children, but you may decide on your own activities: walking the beach, sitting on the porch, knitting, photographing, putting a puzzle together, resting, sleeping, reading.... We want you to enjoy yourself and meet people from our collaborative churches.

On Saturday of the retreat, the Castine Church will provide a workshop on Social Justice. Margaret has engaged Rev. Dr. Jodi Cohen Hayashida, minister from the First Universalist Church in Auburn, Maine, to be the workshop leader this year. Her passion, at this time, is the People's Campaign, A Moral Agenda for America. For those of you who might want to come for Saturday only, that is possible also. Please see Kay Hansen for more information.

UUCC Opportunity Funds at Work in our Communities

There are two primary goals of the UUCC Opportunity Fund 1. making a financial difference and 2. congregational and community engagement.



On June 26th, at 9:30 in the morning, several members of the congregation met on the front porch of the Learning Center at **h.o.m.e., inc.** in Orland. Tracey Hair and three members of her staff met us there for a tour of the h.o.m.e. campus. Wow! There is so much more to h.o.m.e. than most of us realized. Just a short list: Leaning Center; Child Care Center; Men's shelter; Women's shelter (including young children); Playground (a new playground is coming soon thanks, in part, to Opportunity Fund support); Arts & Crafts Workshops—weaving, painting, leather, pottery, quilting & fabric art, and stained glass; chapel, bargain barn; craft store, sawmill and cedar shingle making workshop; and the lunch counter where brunch is served on Sunday and a wholesome healthy lunch is available Monday through Friday. The

warmth and commitment of the people at h.o.m.e. was all around the campus. Our investment in h.o.m.e. is making a difference. Oh, and one more thing If anyone knows a great way to get an electric golf cart donated to h.o.m.e., they sure could use it to help people with limited mobility move around the campus better. Thanks.



**Helping You
Reclaim Your
Life**

Open Door Recover Center – providing compassionate treatment for those with co-occurring disorders since 1984.

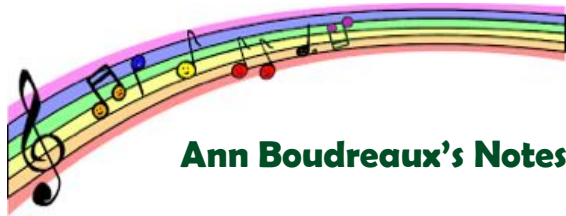
Open Door Recovery Center was founded by William (Bill) Hills.

Bill had a true passion for helping others find their way into recovery. As an outpatient counselor with the Kelly 6 Program at Eastern Maine Medical Center, Bill recognized the need for treatment in Hancock County. In 1984, a private donor provided seed money to begin Open Door Recovery Center. ODRC started in the basement of St. Joseph's Church, Ellsworth, Maine providing quality treatment to those who suffered with the disease of addiction. In 1999 ODRC moved to its current location at 8 Old Mill Road in Ellsworth.

Our Mission at **Hills House** is to provide a safe, healthy, healing, loving environment for women who are committed to recovery from the disease of addiction and mental health disorders while pregnant and/or caring for their children age birth to ten years. At Open Door Recovery Center and Hills House one of our main goals is to treat the disease with the parents while keeping them unified and/or reunified with their young children.

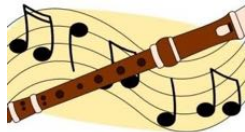


JULY 22nd during our Sunday morning service, Barbara Royal, Executive Director of Open Door Recovery Center, will be our featured Opportunity Fund speaker. Come and hear about all ODRC is doing to help people in recovery.



Ann Boudreaux's Notes

Looking forward to our own local Witherle Consort providing instrumental music for the July 8th Sunday morning service.



Come Sing a Song!
We're experimenting with a summer choir. Anyone is welcome to sing. Practice begins July 8th at 9.30. We'll be preparing for the choir to sing on July 22nd or 29th. Everyone is welcome!



Summer Lunches

The summer lunch program at the Witherle Memorial Library is off to a slow start as the last day at the Adams School was June 19th.

Fresh fruit is always welcome, it can be delivered directly to Irene Hall, the children's librarian. Thanks to Tom and Marcia Mason for making a trip to Sam's Club so supplies were on hand before June 19.

If you have questions about this project please let me know, bqtenney@maine.rr.com, 326-4372.

Thank you in advance for your support and fruit contribution. Brooke Tenney



Families Belong Together

Beyond Thoughts and Prayers. After the Silence, Action.

June 21st, the Summer Solstice, is the longest period of daylight in the Northern Hemisphere. On that day, faith communities were called upon to open their places of worship for a vigil, **"The Longest Day Vigil"** in recognition that for separated families, every day apart is 'the longest day.' Castine held our interfaith vigil at Trinity Episcopal Church. About thirty people stopped by to pray, meditate and sit in silence to observe this moment. People were invited to sign up for a continuing conversation about what residents of Castine (year-round and seasonal) can do in response to the tragedies unfolding and continuing at our border.

The initial **conversation** is scheduled on Wednesday, **July 11th at 11:00 a.m.** at the UU Office & Meditation Room, 21 Main Street, Castine. Anyone is welcome to come. We will explore all the possible ways our Castine people might make a material and/or financial contribution toward relieving the suffering and coming to better ways of welcoming people to America. Come, let us reason together and make our way into the future with compassion and determination.



On June 30th, communities gathered in solidarity with our immigrant and migrant neighbors at one of over 700 national and local **"Families Belong Together"** rallies. There were over a dozen rallies in Maine. Get Involved. More information needed? [Www.familiesbelongtogether.org](http://www.familiesbelongtogether.org). Or, ask Rev. Margaret Beckman.



Andrew McKnight

singer • songwriter • storytender

*powerful and entertaining
finely-crafted songs
humor & poetic drama
down-home warmth*

... a sort of folk music mastery, digging into the genre for a sound that's authentic, earnest and deeply heartfelt.
— Worcester Telegram & Gazette

*shades of Appalachia
haunting slide & jazzy blues
feisty anthems
rustic folk*

SAVE THE DATES

The Belfast, Castine, Ellsworth Collaborative Ministry Team is bringing Andrew McKnight to Downeast Maine in August.

 **Saturday, August 11th** — House concert at the Ellsworth UU Church, 120 Bucksport Road in Ellsworth. Concert is at 7:00 p.m.
Suggested donation at the door is \$10.

 **Sunday, August 12th**—Andrew will lead the worship service with word and song at the UU Congregation of Castine, 86 Court Street in Castine. Service begins at 10:30 a.m.

www.andrewmcknight.net



Collaborative Ministry News

Blueberry Rakers' Resource Fairs—Ellsworth and Blue Hill

The migrant blueberry rakers (primarily Haitians) who come to Hancock County every summer are vital to our local economy. These hard-working folks travel long distances to bring in the harvest and they usually travel very light. They live in camps far from towns and often do not have much in the way of food preparation facilities or time to shop. To support the rakers, Maine Mobile Health, in conjunction with the Unitarian- Universalist Church, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, and St. Andrew's Lutheran Church—all of Ellsworth, will hold three **Resource Fairs** for migrants who rake blueberries.

The projected dates of the Resource Fairs are:

July 31 (Tuesday) 4-9 PM---St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Ellsworth

August 2 (Thursday) (4-9 PM)---Blue Hill Grange

August 8 (Wednesday) (4-9 PM)---St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Ellsworth.

Robin Lovrien (of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Ellsworth): robin.uuce@gmail.com is the local coordinator for this volunteer effort. You can text or phone her: 207-598-0468 Please identify yourself and your affiliation (if any) in e-mails or texts.

DONATIONS NEEDED:

Toiletries!! ALL kinds—including feminine hygiene products—hair products, soaps, , toothpaste, toothbrushes, soaps, body washes, shaving supplies for men! – NEW please. Travel sizes are OK; regular and large sizes are especially welcome. Sunscreen, body lotions, powder, (e.g. Gold Bond),

Bedding: comforters, blankets, pillows—sheets are OK, but less needed than warm bedding.

WARM clothes for WORK: For men AND women: Flannel shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts, fleece items of any kind, sweat pants, long sleeved pullover shirts. Dress shirts and pants are generally NOT needed.

Gloves—all kinds of **work** gloves in all sizes: NO mittens please.

Work shoes and boots/socks: Work socks are ESPECIALLY welcome. Boots and sturdy shoes suitable for the fields or for working in the blueberry freezers—men's and women's.

Food: Food generally needs to be items that can be cooked on minimal equipment or warmed up:
CANNED food: beans—(NO **pinto beans**, nor **garbanzos**, please,)—black, red, white--- vegetables, fruit—PLAIN! Not too fancy!! Canned meat and fish; dry pasta and sauces; RICE, canned stews, simple soups! Canned fruit (low sugar or in juice).

Also: Peanut butter & Jelly/Jam—in VERY high demand!!, (basic flavors).

*Please note: exotic or gourmet foods are often left over and we are hard-pressed to find a destination for them. Please keep foodstuffs SIMPLE.

* Fresh foods are donated by local farms but more is always welcome on the days of the fairs!

We have storage available in advance of the fairs! Please contact Robin (contact info above) to have your donations picked up or to get questions answered. The DAY of each fair, we serve a hot meal of simple, good food—(e.g. macaroni and cheese or spaghetti, hearty meat stews, etc.) Perhaps you would like to donate cooked food—and even help serve it!

We'd LOVE to have you volunteer—an hour or all day! Please get in touch!



Lakeside Reflections July, 2018



The darkness of recent days seems to be closing in all around me.

Where is the light? Where is hope? Where is the Love about which I preach on any given Sunday morning in our Castine Meeting House? I am not at peace. I am not at ease. And, truly, I tell you, I am tired. I am tired of the relentless assault (for this is what it feels like) of powers and principalities, politicians and neighbors in near and far places on human dignity and justice. The objective seems to be not just to harm, but to destroy – on purpose. And not just people, but the environment and our systems of democracy and our commitment to the Common Good.

The wisdom of our elders comes to me as both comfort and admonition:

“It is always darkest just before the Day dawneth” Thomas Fuller, 1650

“No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There’s too much work to do.” Dorothy Day

“It is possible to live in peace. The future depends on what we do in the present. It is possible to live to peace.” Mohandas Gandhi

“When we are silent we are still afraid. So it is better to speak remembering We were never meant to survive.” Audre Lorde

“I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.”

Edward Everett Hale

“When they go low, we go high.” Michelle Obama

“We are not here to curse the darkness, but to light the candle that can guide us thru that darkness to a safe and sane future.” John F. Kennedy, 1960

I am grateful for the flaming chalice as a symbol of our Unitarian Universalist faith. May its flame burn brightly in our hearts and in our souls as we make our way through the darkness that threatens to overtake us, but must not. May we clasp hands and move together toward the dawn that awaits us if we are steadfast in our commitment to Love Beyond Belief and to work as hard as we can to bring light to those whose own flame has gone out.

Independence Day is upon us. Let us rejoice and be glad. Let us never relax our determination to preserve our nation as a place of welcome and promise for all. *Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!*

However you choose to mark July 4th, may you be filled with courage and kindness.

Namaste, *Margaret*



Justin Teodoro
NYC artist, designer & illustrator