



THE COMMON

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF CASTINE

September 2025

It is 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 and friends while serving our broader communities.

A Month of Sundays in

September 7 Worship Leader: Rev. Amy DeBeck
Musician: Colleen Fitzgerald

September 14 Worship Leader: Rev Vanessa Titang
Musician: Karen Froehly

September 21 Worship Leader: Rev Amy DeBeck
Musician: Colleen Fitzgerald
Potluck

September 28 Worship Leader: Rev Amy DeBeck
Musician: Karen Froehly

Contact Us

P.O. Box 520, 86 Court Street, Castine, ME 04421
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 Victoria Bujan office@uucastine.org.



Minister's Meanderings

Building Belonging

For awhile now I have spent time each year focusing on the idea of “Longing and Belonging” as each being part of the other. When we have a longing for something, it often takes us back to a time and place that gave us a deep sense of belonging. We might venture into something new to recreate that feeling, like a new friendship, hobby, class, or church. Sometimes the feeling of longing leads us to do something good for our longing soul. At some point along the way, we become aware that we have a deep sense of belonging; it feels like a satisfaction wherein longing has been sated. Longing and belonging, this is church to me.

We are Building Belonging here at UUCU. We all gather together in service or whenever, wherever we can, with a sense of community. Typically, it never comes up who is a member and who is a friend, meaning whether you have signed the membership book as a voting member. We just do everything together, so I was pleasantly surprised recently when it was brought to my attention that it would be

meaningful for some folks to sign our membership book. We have had a couple of meetings or classes, and could have more if requested.

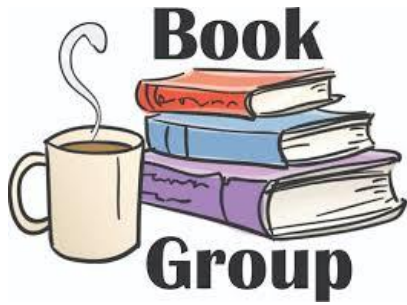
If you had wondered about what membership means, talk to me! If you had been thinking about signing the membership book but had not yet, talk to me! If you would like a class or two offered online, talk to me! Let's build up our community so that the welcome table has to keep growing and growing.

During the service on September 21, potluck Sunday, we will have a special ceremony for membership. The book will be out for us to look at, and we will welcome new or returning members during the service. One new excited signee asked if the whole family should come, and I said, “YES!” Let us celebrate our friends and members, our community, and the sense of belonging pervading this place.

In peace

Rev. Amy



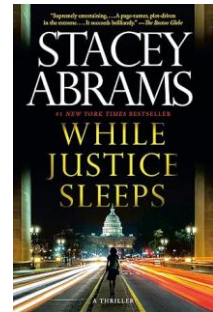


UCC READS

Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. on ZOOM

This week, UCC Reads will begin discussing "When Justice Sleep " by Stacey Abrams

A gripping, complexly plotted thriller set within the halls of the U.S. Supreme Court, where a young law clerk finds herself embroiled in a shocking mystery crafted by one of the most preeminent judges in America—from celebrated national leader and bestselling author Stacey Abrams.



Consider becoming part of the UCC Reads book discussion. Click on the link below Tuesday, or email office@uucastine.org and we will add you to the weekly reminder list.

Potluck on September 21!

After the service on September 17, our traditional 3rd. Sunday potluck day, join us for a special ceremony for membership.

Welcome Ceremony Sunday September 21

86 Court Street

All are welcome!

11:30 to 2pm

; in the spirit of Potluck, you may bring a dish to share



August 2025 Steeple Update



We're excited to share that progress is being made on our steeple repair project with the guidance of E.L. Shea Builders and Engineers of Ellsworth.

Thanks to Mike Becker, who brought his drone on site, we now have a close-up view of the steeple's condition. While the photos clearly show extensive rot (not the news we were hoping for!), they also give us a clearer understanding of the work ahead.

There's good news, though: E.L. Shea owns an 80-foot lift, which we'll be able to use. This will save us a significant amount compared to renting from United Rental in Bangor.

Because repairs of this scale are costly, it has been recommended that we first remove all

of the finials to prevent damage before replacing the rotted wood. The work will likely need to be done in stages as funding allows.

The UUCB Budget Committee is currently preparing the 2026 budget, and the steeple project will be an important topic of discussion at the August board meeting.

We'll continue to keep everyone updated as the project moves forward. Thank you for your patience, support, and commitment to preserving our beloved steeple.

To be continued...

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia



JOIN CASTINE'S INTERFAITH COMMUNITY IN A DAY OF

GIVING TO HELP OUR NEIGHBORS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1,
9AM - NOON at the 7 MAIN ST. GALLERY

DROP OFF YOUR NON-PERISHABLES AND PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS (NOTHING OPENED OR EXPIRED)

REFRESHMENTS SERVED

all cash donations go towards The Interfaith Fuel Fund

INVITATION TO ALL ARTISTS

What do YOU mean by FREEDOM?
What do YOU mean by JUSTICE?



This open call welcomes all artists: painters, writers, poets, musicians, singers, dancers, performers, multimedia creators, speakers' Every medium is welcome every voice matters

Submission Deadline: Saturday, September 6
Showcase Dates: Art Exhibit Grand Opening TBD
Performance Dates - November 7, 8 Grand, Ellsworth

- Things to know:**
- All contributions will be recognized on Artivism in Maine's Website
 - Top 12 Featured in calendar and announced at event in November
 - The top 3 cash prizes will be awarded at Freedom and Justice Festival at the Grand theater November 7th & 8th, 2025

Public recognition provides the opportunity to gain visibility while contributing to a transformative community dialogue.

For More Information & Updates:
Visit: www.artivisminmaine.org
Visit our Facebook Page: [Artivism In Maine](#)
Contact: Lorraine Brown 207-323-2747 Robyn Goff 207 322-8003



TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL PARISH OF CASTINE
CASTINE ARTS ASSOCIATION
CASTINE INTERFAITH BOOK CLUB
CASTINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENT:

COURAGE FOR CHANGE

Documentary Screening of the Award Winning Film
ROSENWALD

How Julius Rosenwald, founder of Sears, Roebuck & Co., revolutionized philanthropy and funded over 4,000 Black schools in the American South with Booker T. Washington. Discussion to follow the film.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025, 4:00 PM
EMERSON HALL, 67 COURT ST. CASTINE
FREE

2025 Orland River Day
Sat. Sept. 13th, 9 - 4
Narramissic Drive & Community Center
Free shuttle between from 11-3
RAIN OR SHINE • WEAR YELLOW

- Join the Alewife Paddle 8:00
- Parade line-up 9:00/start 9:30
- Univ. of Maine Touch Tank 10-12
- Car Show & Touch A Truck 11-3
- Join the MaCKRO Boat Race 11:00
- Sew Rugged Open Tours 11-1 & Corn Hole & Ping Pong 11-1
- Historical Society Open 12-3
- Duck Dash (\$2 bucks a duck) 12:30
- Moxie Drinking Contest 1:30

MUSIC

- Newell Family - Contra Dance 10:30
- Tidewalker - Rock 11:00
- Scrambled Steel - Steel Drums 1:00

VENDORS • FOOD • BOUNCE HOUSE & MORE
www.facebook.com/orlandriverday
see details: www.townoforland.org/orland-river-days

Sponsored by:



CASTINE FILM FESTIVAL

September 20, 2025

The Delano • One Pleasant Street • Castine, Maine

11:00 AM Welcome to the Orchard of England
 Mac & Rico's Pawn Shop
 Sunny Days
 年獸 Nian Shou

1:30 PM Salmon Restoration on Penobscot
 River *with special guest speaker*
 Maine Lines

3:30 PM LE ROI FOURCHETTE
 THE KING OF FORKS
 Perfectus
 Catalogue of Noses
 (taylor's version)
 Chat Mort
 DEAD CAT

5:30 PM American Deadbolt

*for tickets, film details,
 and a guide to Castine, please visit*

www.CastineFilmFestival.com

