



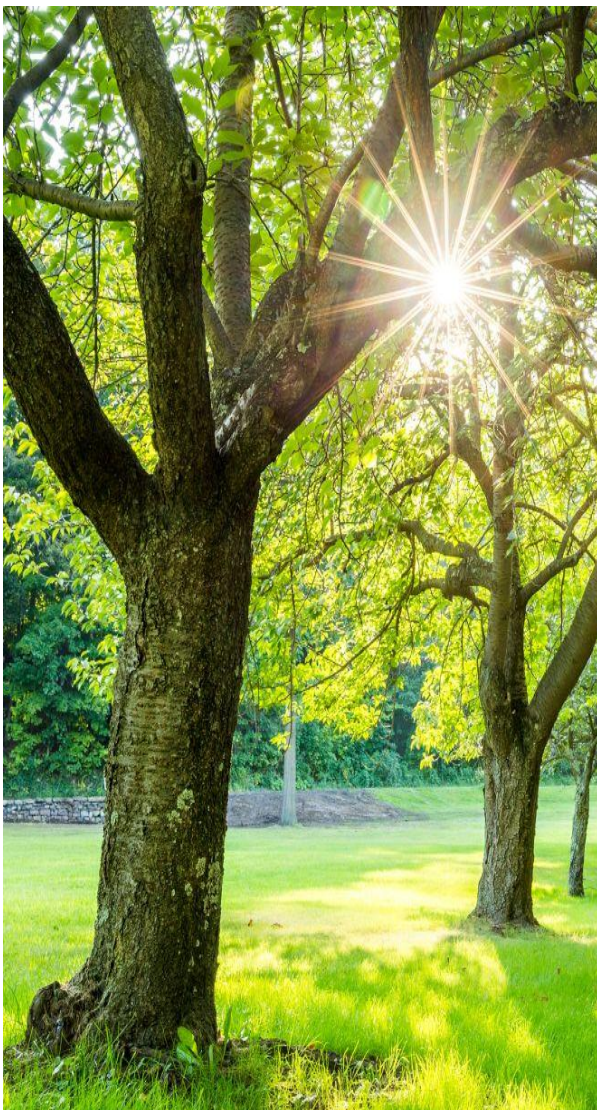
THE COMMON

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF CASTINE

August 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

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|-----------|---|
| August 3 | Worship Leader: Rev Amy DeBeck
Musician: Karen Froehly |
| August 10 | Worship Leader: Rev. Amy DeBeck
Musician: Colleen Fitzgerald |
| August 17 | Worship Leader: Rev. Amy DeBeck
Musician: Karen Froehly
Open House at Parsonage |
| August 24 | Worship Leader: Rev Amy DeBeck
Musician: Colleen Fitzgerald |
| August 31 | Worship Leader: Guest Preacher
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.

You might be a Unitarian Universalist and not know it.

ARE YOU A CLOSET UNITARIAN?

Do you feel out of step when it comes to religion? Do you have difficulty accepting those "absolute truths" and rigid dogmas you were told you had to believe? Are you tired being made to feel guilty because you have honest doubts.

You could be a Unitarian ... and not even know it! Unitarians dislike having their philosophical and religious ideas spoon fed to them.

Unitarians stress the essential goodness in people, not some inherent sinfulness.

Unitarians concentrate on the here-and-now, rather than a hereafter.

Unitarians believe in a rational, reasonable approach to religion, utilizing scientific insights as well as the best ideas and ideals of past and present thinkers and prophets.

Would you like to understand more about liberal religions today, and find out for yourself what it is all about?

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THESE ORIENTATION TALKS ON UNITARIAN/UNIVERSALISM
by Khoren Arisian, Minister
at the
FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY
900 MOUNT CURVE AVE.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55403
Thursday Oct. 22, Oct. 29 & Nov. 1, 1981

Call 377-6608 for details Free Admission.

FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY
900 Mount Curve Ave. 377-6608

11:00 AM Service: ANNUAL PRAIRIE STAR CONFERENCE
WHO'S AFRAID OF THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS?
Conference Speaker: Judith Urquhart, Minister Peoples Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Presiding: Khoren Arisian, Minister

10:00 AM Forum: THE RELIGION OF POLITICS AND THE POLITICS OF RELIGION
Speaking: Professor Mulford Q. Sibley, Political Science Department, University of Minnesota.
Church School for Liberal Religion 10-12 Noon

This ad ran in several papers around the country in the 1960's and again in the 2000's. A person not expecting to become a "church person" might visit, finding that the local UU group is an unexpectedly good fit. Many say that they wish they had found their UU church sooner. It seems that, especially those who choose UU later in life, that their beliefs fit well into the UU shape, whereas some religions expect to mold your beliefs to fit their shape.

You might be a Unitarian Universalist and not know it.

This month I am resurrecting it for our purposes, to help more people feel less lonely by telling them about us. Here is a video from a UU Minister colleague <https://www.tiktok.com/@revjo.uu/video/7187181436380695851> As the month turns to August and our one-year anniversary, I am happy with our good fit. More people should find us and be welcomed into this Beloved Community, while we keep deepening the connections we already have.

Church attendance or membership, certainly getting into leadership, are things that individuals will take on, or not, at varying times for various reasons. Sometimes there is a bit of magic in the act of bringing people together who might only be in the same place because of curiosity over the UU religion. Maybe there is an event or a ritual or a club or circle whose beginning is waiting for the right mix of people to come together.

Orientation classes are being planned for Sunday, August 10 and August 24, from 2 to 4pm. Sign up to spend time on history and current trends. There is no expectation (or pushing) to become a member of UUCC, just getting to know what we call UU. Bring anybody who is interested. Email minister@uucastine.org so that I can plan for class size. I need to receive an email that you will attend by August 8, so that I do not show up to an empty room! Everybody is welcome! If you need to bring your kids just contact me ahead of time to arrange that. See you in church!

In peace

Rev. Amy



From the President's Desk

Change

Change is inevitable and we must somehow adapt to new situations. Here is what is happening at UUCG this month.

Victoria Bujan has been hired as our new office manager! She is from Texas and is a junior at MMA. Rev. Amy was active in her recruitment after Debbie Morehouse resigned from this position in early July. Happily, Debbie will continue to be an active member of our congregation and will "coach" Victoria during the transition period. Debbie will also have more free time to pursue her many interests. We welcome Victoria and look forward to working with her.

Another big change is Bob Holmberg's resignation as Chair of the Opportunity Fund Committee. Bob and his wife Joan MacCracken have been very active participants in outreach activities at UUCG, so they will be truly missed when they move to Falmouth, ME in October to be closer to family.

On a sad note, longtime UUCG member Sue Clement recently confronted difficult decisions regarding her health, and she is now at home under hospice care. We wish her peace and comfort in the coming days. Sue holds the honor of having the longest commute on Sunday mornings, regularly driving in the rain or shining from Hampden. We will greatly miss her wonderful smile, cool British accent, and warm friendship.

Respectfully Yours,

Marcia Mason, Board President

Poem

There's been an undeniable truth

Since before we even existed;

Nothing ever stays the same.

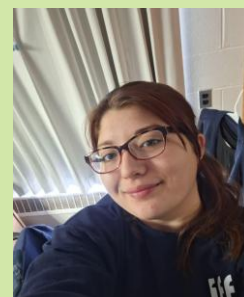
Change cannot be resisted.

-Ms. Moem

Introducing Our New Office Manager

Hi, I'm Victoria Bujan, a rising junior at Maine Maritime Academy in the international business and logistics program. I'm taking over Debbie's position as Office Admin for our congregation.

Some of the things I enjoy doing outside of the church are crafting, crocheting, going on bike rides, hiking, and reading thriller novels. I look forward to working with you all and becoming a part of this community





Potluck on August 17 is at Parsonage!

After the service on August 17, our traditional 3rd. Sunday potluck day, join us at the Parsonage next door. The DeBecks had a winter Open House, and they are so happy to offer another when summer folks might attend.

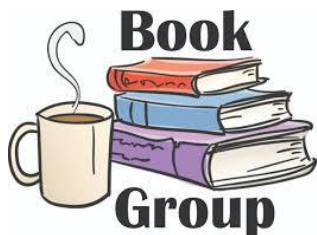
Parsonage Open House Sunday August 17

88 Court Street

Enter through the front door on Court Street or through the white garden gate on the side

11:30 to 2pm

Open House food will be served; in the spirit of Potluck, you may bring a dish to share

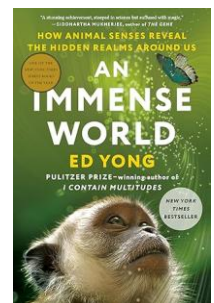


UUC Reads

Tuesdays at 3:30pm on ZOOM

UUC Reads will Start discussing Immense World." by Ed Yong

In An Immense World, author and Pulitzer Prize–winning science journalist Ed Yong coaxes us beyond the confines of our own senses, allowing us to perceive the skeins of scent, waves of electromagnetism, and pulses of pressure that surround us. We listen to stories of pivotal discoveries in the field, while looking ahead at the many mysteries that remain unsolved.



Consider becoming part of the UUC Reads book discussion, drop an email to Victoria office@uucastine.org and she will add you to the weekly reminder list.





UU Orientation Meetings

Sunday August 10, 2-4 pm

Sunday August 24, 2-4 pm



Everybody is welcome—this should be a good chance to learn about local and wider Unitarian Universalist history, about our current state of being as a religious institution, and have snacks, as we briefly share our own religious journeys. If you have been curious about us, or used to attend and took a break, or have been thinking about attending, we love to spend time building community.

Please send Rev. Amy an email by Friday August 8 with your expected attendance so that she can plan for class size.

minister@uucastine.org



The 16th Annual Pulliam Memorial Lecture: Penobscot Sense of Place

Date: Wednesday, August 6, 2025

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Location: Delano Auditorium, Leavitt Hall, Maine Maritime Academy, Castine

Livestream: [Click this link to watch the event live.](#)

No reservations are required for in-person attendance.

Memento Mori

Our next Memento Mori meeting will take place at the usual time and day - 2nd Wednesday of the month, in this case, **Wednesday, August 13th, at 12 noon, EST.**

I miss your faces, wisdom and authenticity and look forward to seeing those of you who choose to be there in our August gathering.

HERE IS OUR LINK:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88247254767?pwd=b712bgGudloGE1lDqLaYoIb6eBanXh.1>

Meeting ID: 882 4725 4767

Passcode: 057490

I wanted to share with you a link to an article that answers a question I hear fairly often:

<https://www.heartfullivinganddying.com/blog> - The link is in my blog which directs you to the fabulous Nurse Julie's blog post that beautifully clarifies the answer to that question (at least for now), and speaks to what hospice offers.

As an aside, I add that what Julie does not address in this particular article is the thing that I most appreciate about hospice care - yes, it offers comfort, holistic support and in-home care, but at the center of all this is the true intention of hospice:

Not ease in dying, but *GRACE IN LIVING*. In a good hospice, the aim is that your care be centered on the *you* - "patient" centered care *without* a focus on your being a patient, but rather on *your being YOU*. we listen to your wants and desires, your fears and joys, and your thoughts on the ways we can assist YOU in making the very most of your remaining time on Earth, whether that be in years, months, weeks, days, hours or minutes; **HOW DO YOU WANT TO LIVE?** Who do you want near you? What has gone unsaid that you would like to say? What do you still wish to do? How can simply **BEING PRESENT** fulfill you?

Do you want more music? Art? Noise? Silence? Books read? Do you have letters you would like to write (to send now, or for those you love to read after you are gone)? Is more intimacy what you seek and if so, we aim to assist you in generating this. Is more autonomy - even with various losses of your sense of self - possible?

These and so many questions and desires, dreams and manifestations are possible and tendable while in hospice, often in ways one never had access to in life!

I have often said "everyone should have hospice, every day of their lives!" and I mean this with every breath. We should all have a team of folks committed to helping us live our best moments. Support in **LIVING** is the greatest gift of hospice.

As always, we meet whether one or one hundred choose to show up! When you choose to join us, you may arrive with something to share, or just to listen, can change your mind at any time; you can be present wholly or with camera off to remain invisible. Your whole self, however you are in your moments, is welcome.

You are always welcome to share these invitations with those you feel may benefit.

Wishing you each delight in your remaining summer days,

With Love Always, & I hope to see you soon,
Maya



Summer Events

130 No Neighbor Left Behind meals were delivered on July 11 consisting of Italian-style subs with chips, cookies, and watermelon slices. A great summer picnic meal to celebrate themseason with our NNLB friends. As ever, these meals could not be produced without a community of helpers, including summer visitor cookie bakers!!!! Thank you, everyone!!!!

Looking for something to do this summer?

Here are just a few of the Castine Arts Association offerings:

Castine Youth Theatre performances based on the Icarus myth on August 23 & 24.

Novel Jazz Septet concert at the Trinitarian Church at 7 p.m. on August 6th. Free to all...but donations always appreciated.

Todd Nelson reading from his latest book on August 26 at the Wilson Museum Hutchins Education Center, 7 p.m.

“Rosenwald”—a fabulous film examining the life of this amazing man whose philanthropy included establishing a multitude of schools to provide quality education for black students when society had failed to recognize all children’s needs. September 7 at Emerson Hall, 7 p.m.

Love films? Go online to purchase tickets for our first ever international film festival!!! Ambitious? Yes, and very exciting! Thanks to the outpouring of films sent to us for consideration and the numerous CAA screeners who narrowed the field, we have selected 12 remarkable films to be shown in a single day at MMA’s Delano Auidtuirum . For more information, go to castinefilmfestival.org where descriptions of each film and a schedule for the day may be found! A \$20 dollar ticket will gain the holder entry to ALL the films and may be purchased online.

Johanna



Jazz on a summer's eve with the DUKE

Featuring the **Novel Jazz Septet**
 Wed. 6 August, 2025; 7PM
Trinitarian Congregational Church
 68 Main St, Castine, ME
 \$15/person suggested donation at the door
[www/castinearts.org](http://www.castinearts.org); info@castinearts.org




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



The first week of August hangs at the very top of summer, the top of the live-long year, like the highest seat of a ferris wheel when it pauses in its turning, The weeks that come before are only a climb from balmy spring, and those that follow a drop to the chill of autumn, but the first week of August is motionless, and hot.

— Natalie Babbitt

