

# The COMMON

## Climate Change Simmers

*Huge crowds take Manhattan*



On September 21, an estimated 310,000 people, flooded Manhattan in a dramatic demand that their government respond to the clear and present dangers of an increasingly inhospitable planet.

Are such demonstrations effective? Not very, it appears. Yet it may be more than happenstance that the Rockefeller Brothers Fund within days divested \$50 billion in fossil fuels stock. Hope is alive.

### CALENDAR

(see also page 3)

#### Pulpit

October 5

Rev. Charles J. Stephens

October 12

Rev. Charles J. Stephens

October 19

Rev. Charles J. Stephens

October 26

Rev. Sara Hayman Huisjen

#### Events

Oct. 16,

Governing Board  
meeting, 8:30 am

Oct. 19: Pot Luck Lunch

October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Choir rehearsals begin an  
every Thursday at 1 pm  
schedule.

### FROM THE BOARD

### DELACROIX DAVIS III, PRESIDENT

We all were saddened by Bjorn Larsson's death during Labor Day weekend. A long-time member and supporter of the congregation, Bjorn previously had served as Treasurer on the Governing Board. His gentle presence will be greatly missed. We understand from family members that Sylvia will



remain in their home in Castine receiving the excellent services of their caregivers. Following interment in Castine's cemetery, a memorial service will be held in the Meeting House, at 2 pm on September 28. *continues on p 4*

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Kay Hansen  
Religious Educator

### “Special Me”

During September, Emma, our new religious education aide, has worked with preschool children on a unit called “Special Me.” Through stories and activities, our first principle--“Every person is important”--is emphasized. In October, we will continue and expand this unit as the children hear stories and engage in activities that explore how they use their bodies to learn about the world around them.

### CROP Walk, folksongs, worship services

Also in September, the older children learned about the purpose of the CROP Walk and made posters to carry in the September 21 event in Castine. In October, we will begin work on integrating this group into some of the adult services. On October 5, a folksinger will be helping with the worship service and, on the last Sunday of the month, the Rev. Sara Huisjen, from the Ellsworth church, will bring a group of youth who will tell about their service project in Guatemala this past summer. We feel that both these church services will be interesting to our children and I will explore with them some ways they might actively participate in them.

### To be of service

We will begin another project in October to involve our youth in the activities of the church. On potluck Sundays, the children will help set the tables for potluck and provide some type of decoration for the tables. This won't eliminate the need for adults who are responsible for potluck set-up, but we hope it will help, and our youth will be involved in service to the church. October 19 will be our first Sunday to try this, and we will learn what is possible for us to do. As we do this each month, we may be able expand on this project. In the meantime, we would appreciate your patience, help, and suggestions as we involve our youth in service to the church.

Last, but not least, we are looking for more members to help with our transitions and new ideas for children and youth programming. Please contact me or Charles to become a member of the Religious Education Committee. As the church looks forward to a new minister, we also look for a growing church community with more participation from our young people.



### Hospitality

Sanford & Jean Warren have signed up to usher three Sundays in a row--October 5, 12, and 19!

Virginia & Stan Bourne will ply you with Orders of Service on October 26.

Hosting coffee hours will be Sally Foote (October 5), Sue Clement & Nancy Guy (October 12), and Pam Person & Lynn Parsons (October 26). October 19 will see the first Pot Luck Lunch of the season. Thanks all!

## CHARLES' COGITATION



Change is in the air. We know it is autumn not only by the calendar, but also by cooler temperatures and the changing of the leaves. Many of our members and friends who are in Castine only during the summer months have returned, or soon will return, to their homes in other parts of the country. We enjoy having them with us and will miss their presence until next spring and summer.

Political leaders in our state and around the country are working hard to get elected. They are promising what they would do to change (or maintain) our state or country, if elected. We all know how important it is for us to study their positions, be involved, and then to vote our conscience.

Change is in the air here at UUCC, too. Your Search Committee has been in full gear all summer. And they won't be slowing down for many months to come. I am impressed with all the great work they have been doing to clarify what kind of minister would best fit your needs and desires. They have been gathering and compiling information about the Congregation so they can find and attract your next settled minister.

They want to let prospective ministers know what a great congregation UUCC would be to serve and what a wonderful place Castine, Maine is to live. In the months ahead they will get your congregational packet ready for potential ministers to study. Then they will meet with those few ministers they choose to interview and who decide they are interested in UUCC.

We can sense the shift in their energy and focus. Yes, the seasons are changing.

## Pulpit Preview: October

Oct. 5 "Pete Seeger's Message to UUs and the World"

Oct. 12 "How We Speak To One Another" The third in my series on "Living A Compassionate Life," based on Karen Armstrong's work.

Oct. 19 "Mental Illness and Unanswered Suffering" People are shocked when someone commits suicide. Many people experience such unanswered suffering that suicide seems like the only way out. It is past time for religious communities to speak out.

Oct. 26 Rev. Sara Huisjen from the UU Church of Ellsworth will be our guest in the pulpit. She will speak about her trip to Guatemala this summer and the work underway there to help impoverished children. She will involve in the service some of the teens that accompanied her.

## FROM THE BOARD



*from page 1*

Last month's *From the Board* column indicated opportunities for service with ushering, hosting coffee hour, revising the congregational bylaws, and vacancies on the Buildings and Grounds and Religious Education Committees. The responses for ushering and hosting coffee hour have been wonderful, responses for revising the bylaws and committee vacancies, not so much. Please consider donating a small amount of your time for these important efforts.

Following the recommendation of the Finance Committee, at its September meeting the Board voted to terminate the services of Nichols Investment Management and transfer the funds it had been managing to Morgan Stanley and the UUA Common Endowment Fund. According to UUA's website, the Common Endowment Fund "is a diversified investment fund seeking current income and long-term investment returns through portfolio allocation and professional asset management with UU socially responsible investing goals."

The changing of the seasons means the return of pot luck luncheons on the third Sunday of the month. Please mark your calendars for October 19 and November 16. The Annual Meeting will follow the November luncheon. Special expenses associated with selecting and relocating a new settled minister, as well as requested increases for the Pulliam Awards could result in a spirited discussion of the 2015 budget.

Del Davis, President

### **If a Sunday Service needs to be canceled:**

Hard as it is to keyboard this on a balmy late-September day, it would be foolish beyond measure to believe that we could coast through a winter with no weather closures. Be prepared is more than a Boy Scout nostrum.



So, If church needs to be cancelled due to bad weather, you can find out in three principal ways:

- 1- We will send out a congregation-wide email.
- 2- We will post a message on our Web site.
3. The recorded UUCC phone message will be changed to reflect our closing.

We will do our best to keep you notified about cancelations, but if you don't feel safe and secure about driving, we encourage you to use your own discretion and stay at home!



*ON BEING*

*What are you doing at 6 am on Sunday mornings? Follow your curiosity after reading this page and you just might permanently forgo that extra hour of sleep!*

*Anne and I discovered On Being and Krista Tippett maybe three years ago when she featured on her radio show our own UU Rev. Kate Braestrup. We were hooked and now tune in every Sunday morning at 6 am on Maine Public Radio, 90.9 in this area. On July 28 at the White House, President Obama presented Krista the National Humanities Medal, for “thoughtfully delving into the mysteries of human existence.”*

*The following copy is from On Being’s Web site. Enjoy. Editor*

*On Being* is a Peabody Award-winning public radio conversation and podcast, a Webby Award-winning website and online exploration, a publisher and public event convener: a social enterprise with a radio show at its heart.

*On Being* opens up the animating questions at the center of life: What does it mean to be human, and how do we want to live? We explore these questions in their richness and complexity in 21st-century lives and endeavors. We pursue wisdom

and moral imagination as much as knowledge; we esteem nuance and poetry as much as fact.

*On Being’s* listeners, readers, and online communities cross boundaries that separate them in the culture at large: generational, socioeconomic, political, religious. They report that *On Being* equips them to relate in fresh, new ways to different others, and emboldens them to engage in new kinds of service.

Krista first created the show — originally called *Speaking of Faith* — at Minnesota Public Radio/American Public Media. It launched on weekly public radio stations across the U.S. in 2003. In 2013, *On Being* transitioned to an independent production (Krista Tippett Public Productions) on Loring Park in Minneapolis.

*On Being* airs on more than 330 public radio stations across the U.S., distributed by American Public Media. The podcast reaches a global audience via SoundCloud. We keep finding new ways to listen to our listeners and online communities, and they keep pointing new ways forward for this adventure.

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On September 21, Maine UU State Advocacy Network filled a 55-seat chartered bus and joined 300,000 other marchers for climate justice. In Manhattan, they met up with UUA President Rev. Peter Morales and some 1,500 UUs in a parade that took 4 hours to pass a single point.

## SEARCH COMMITTEE: HELP!

Anne Parsons

Your picture may be worth a lot of words . . .

As you know, the Ministerial Search Committee has been collecting information from members and friends to compile and share with prospective ministerial candidates. We have held six "cottage meetings" in which 49 of you participated. We posted in the Parish House lists of the topics discussed. We also distributed detailed surveys and are pleased to report a 67 percent response from members plus a number of friends for a total of fifty-three. The responses from the survey are being compiled and will be shared.

We are now moving to the next phase, a visual presentation that conveys how we appear to someone "from away." We have a team charged with creating a digital picture of us. Some of you may be asked to share your thoughts about our congregation and describe your UUC experiences.

But we need more. We need YOUR help in another way. Our videographer cannot go back in time, so we need you to go back in your files and albums and find still photos that depict congregational activities, e.g. perhaps the Bournes' picnic, the Church Fair, a wedding, a Castine Christmas service, a Cleonice concert. We are not limited to congregational events. We need pictures of life in the community . . . school events, Fourth of July parade, sailing races, band concerts. We want to provide as complete a picture as possible for any ministerial candidate looking at us.

Please email digitalized photos to [emma.sweet@uucastine.org](mailto:emma.sweet@uucastine.org). If you have any questions about how to do this, please call Emma at 326-1014. If your pictures are the old-fashioned kind, call Emma as well.

We appreciate your help.

## MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Del Davis, President  
Gil Tenney, Vice President  
Diana Bernard, Treasurer  
Anne Romans, Clerk  
Nancy Guy  
Tom Mason  
Leslie Fairbank  
Kent Price, Alternate

The Governing Board meets in the Parish House at 8:30 am on the third Thursday of each month. Observers always are welcome.

## THE COMMON

*The Common* is published monthly and distributed in both electronic and photocopy forms. All members and friends are invited to submit items for consideration. Send submissions or comments to editor Kent Price at [kapricorn75@gmail.com](mailto:kapricorn75@gmail.com). Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding publication.

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