



THE COMMON

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF CASTINE

September 2021

SUNDAY WORSHIP September - December 2021

Date	Worship Leader	Musician
September 5	Vanessa Williams	Colleen Fitzgerald
September 12	Joint CMT Service	CMT
September 19	Charles Stephens	Colleen
September 26	Michael Hall	Colleen
October 3	Donna Dolhman	Julie Gardner & Chris Poulin
October 10	Sara Hayman	Colleen
October 17	Mark Worth	Julie & Chris
October 24	Vanessa Williams	Colleen
October 31	Drew Moeller	Colleen
November 7	Jodi Hayashida	Julie & Chris
November 14	ANNUAL MEETING	Colleen
November 21	TBA	Julie & Chris
November 28	Amy Fiorilli	Colleen
December 5	Lane Fisher	Julie & Chris
December 12	Vanessa Williams	Colleen
December 19	Margaret	Julie & Chris
December 24	Margaret	Colleen
December 26	Margaret	Colleen

Happy New Year!!!

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 • Office 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 Jean Lamontanaro at jean.lamontanaro@gmail.com.

Lakeside Reflections, September 2021



Going on Sabbatical from September 15th to December 15th

What is the meaning of Sabbatical leave? A Sabbatical leave is **a period in which an employee takes an extended break from work.** The reasons for taking a Sabbatical can vary from pursuing a degree or working on a personal project to volunteering, traveling the world, or spending more time with family.

In our Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, ministers called to serve full-time typically earn Sabbatical time at the rate of one month per year of service. A few other guidelines for ministers and congregations. Ministers may not take any Sabbatical leave until completing three years of service with the congregation (or ministry setting) they serve, and, ministers should plan to stay in their ministry for at least one year after their Sabbatical. Congregations ought to view Sabbatical as a time their minister earned. Congregations are typically well-served by neighboring UU ministers for Sunday services and emergency pastoral care concerns. Many congregations find the time of Sabbatical a time

for strengthening lay leadership and volunteer participation. I hope that happens here in Castine.

In Northern New England, congregations and ministers have a somewhat unique agreement among themselves for reciprocal Sabbatical coverage. This means that congregations release their minister to provide a Sunday service for a congregation whose minister is on Sabbatical. The minister receives no extra pay from the Sabbatical congregation and the home congregation covers the expense of filling their own Sunday schedule. In the 14 years of my ministry in Maine, I have filled in for many ministers on Sabbatical. Now, others will fill our Castine pulpit while I am away. This has been a marvelous way to allow congregations to afford a Sabbatical for their minister. I am grateful to all the New England ministers who will be serving you all on Sundays between September 15th and December 15th when I am away.

Other coverage for our congregation while I am away:

- Brooke Tenney, our president, will handle administrative and governance concerns
- Becky St. John, our office administrator, will carry on and add some duties to keep things running smoothly
- Cindi Kimball is our Sabbatical Sunday Service Coordinator
- Debbie Morehouse is our Sunday morning tech team leader
- Pastoral Care will be covered by all of you taking care of each other and for pastoral care concerns needing a minister, our collaboration ministers – Sara Hayman in Ellsworth and Amy Fiorilli in Belfast, along with our Intern, Vanessa Williams – will be on-

Continued on next page

Lakeside Reflections, continued

Continued from previous page

call and ready to serve. Contact information for all these fine folks will be available from the church office through Becky St. John or from Brooke Tenney.

Taking a Sabbatical is always a bit stress-producing for everyone. During these days of Covid-19 and Delta, I think the stress may be a bit greater. I know I have been challenged to get everything in place for multi-platform church and Zoom meetings and electronic communications under the shadow of Covid. I also think that UUCC will rise

to whatever additional challenges come your way.

Finally, thanks for all your support and encouragement. I can't tell you how much it means to me. It's a true joy and honor to be your minister, and I'm happy to be coming back the middle of December in time to celebrate Christmas Eve in our beautiful Meeting House!

May this Sabbatical be a time of renewal and reconnection for all of us.

Namaste,
Margaret

UUCC Joins Solar Farm

Your governing board voted to join a solar farm. We have signed up with Powermarket. When the next Powermarket solar farm goes on line we will be receiving solar credits for our electricity use. It is a concept that is accessible to those of us who are not interested in or able to install solar equipment on our property but still want to be a part of the solar energy movement. The joining process is very simple. For more information go to <https://powermarket.io/faq.html>, click on company then FAQ.

Brooke Tenney



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