



THE COMMON

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF CASTINE

September 2022

Month of Sundays in September

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|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 4 | Rev. Margaret Beckman, Worship Leader
<i>Giving with Heart, Mind, and Spirit</i>
Juliane Gardner & Chris Poulin, Musicians |
| September 11 | Rev. Donna Dolham, Guest Worship Leader
Colleen Fitzgerald, Musician |
| September 18 | Bettina Lehovec, Guest Worship Leader
Musician Colleen Fitzgerald
Potluck Sunday |
| September 25 | Rev. Margaret Beckman, Worship Leader
<i>A Walk in the Woods</i>
Karen Froehly, Organist |

All of who you are is sacred. All of who you are is welcome.



Unitarian Universalism

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 • 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 Debbie Morehouse office@uucastine.org.

The Piano Goes on Grand Tour



The Knabe baby grand went on tour the week of August 22nd, leaving our Parish House bright and early on Monday morning.



It then travelled to the Hutchins Education Center at the Wilson Museum with the help of some skillful movers.



After a short rest, and tuning, it was ready for the spotlight.



Then it was back into the box truck for the final leg of its long and winding road to its new home.

As of Thursday, the piano has taken its place of honor in the front room of the Pentagoet Inn. Matt & George are thrilled, and it is settling in nicely! They report that Scott Cleveland will be at the keyboard every Thursday from 6-8 p.m. during the season. Stop by and visit soon.

Thanks to all involved for making this baby grand's grand tour and new home possible!



Lakeside Reflections – September 2022



You have, no doubt, heard the saying, “Splitting wood warms a person twice. First in the effort to split the wood and second when it is burned.”

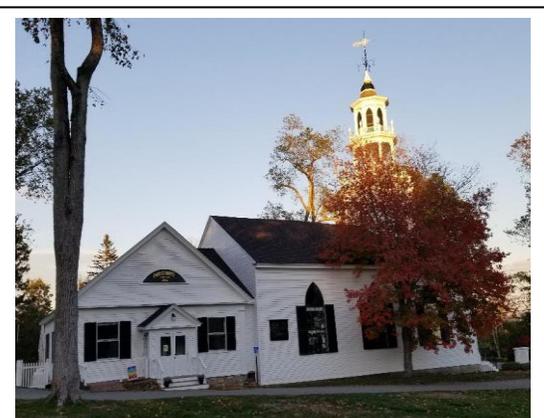
Stacking 2 cords of wood or more has the same effect. September is the month when those of us who heat with wood, or supplement our heat system with woodstove or fireplace, take stock of the supply of cut, split and stacked wood we have put by for the coming winter.

At my house, the splitting and stacking is well underway. though not quite finished, it will be completed before the snow flies and the end of

October when the nights get cold enough to compel one of us (usually me) to turn the thermostat in the kitchen up to 62 degrees. Today, the noontime temperature will top 70 degrees and those below-freezing nights seem a long way off. There is a deep satisfaction in the sound and smell of a splitting log and the orderly rows of carefully stacked firewood nestled under the stairs awaiting the time for providing a warmth like no other on a cold winter night.

September in Maine is beautiful. We reach for sweaters and put away shorts and flipflops. Already the maples, oaks, elms and beeches begin to lose the green of spring and summer. Gold, red, yellow, and orange peep through the branches still full of leaves. By the end of September, most of these brilliant colors will have fallen to the ground blanketing the earth in the rich aroma of Autumn once again.

I am an Autumn person. It is my favorite season. I was born in Autumn. I appreciate the pace of Autumn ... slowing but not paused; introspection but not yet the deep interior rest of winter; the low slanting sunlight and shadows; and gratitude for the harvest and the gifts another year turning.



The bell tower of our Meeting House shines gold in Autumn's light.

May your memories of summer keep you delighted.

May September bring you the sweetness of this season.

May your carefully put by provisions for the coming winter be sufficient for the season.

Namaste, *Margaret*



**Adams School and MMA are Open
Watch out for buses and walkers**



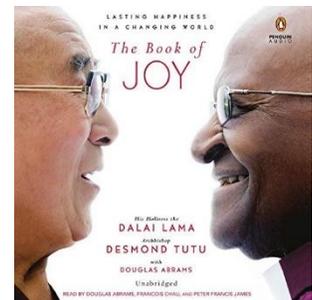
**POTLUCK
September 18th**

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 18, bring your favorite potluck dish, a friend and enjoy the conversation and camaraderie!

UUCC Reads – Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m.

Our book for September is:

The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World, September 20, 2016 by Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, and Douglas Carlton Abrams.



The occasion was a big birthday. It inspired two close friends to get together in Dharamsala for a talk about something very important to them. The friends were His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. The subject was joy. Both winners of the Nobel Prize, both great spiritual masters and moral leaders of our time, they are also known for being among the most infectiously happy people on the planet.

From the beginning the book was envisioned as a three-layer birthday cake: their own stories and teachings about joy, recent findings in the science of deep happiness, and the daily practices that have anchored their own emotional and spiritual lives. Both the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Tutu have been tested by great personal and national adversity, and here they shared their personal stories of struggle and renewal. They especially wanted to spread the core message that to have joy yourself, you must bring joy to others.

Join us and invite a friend! Here is the [Zoom link to UUCC Reads!](#)

Spic & Span

Coastal Maintainers, a company in Bucksport, has been retained to clean the Church and Parish House on a regular basis – YAY! We will block out every other Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on our calendar, beginning on September 9th. Keep this in mind as you plan meetings here at the Church.

Of course, if the Church is needed for a wedding or memorial service during that time, they will work with us to ensure everyone’s needs are met.



We’re Hiring Staff for the Coming Year

Help us Find the Best Candidates to Advance our Faith, our Mission, Our Work

Tell everyone who might be interested, maybe that is you! More information is available from Rev. Margaret Beckman at minister@uucastine.org

Music Director/Coordinator (part time. about 10 hours per week)

Lifespan Faith Development Specialist (part time. about 10 hours per week)

Sunday morning Tech Team Specialist (about 2.5 hours on Sunday mornings)



Seeking Children’s Coloring and Activities Books

Until we have a Lifespan Faith Development Specialist in place, we have added a table and chairs in the back of the sanctuary, creating a “kids” corner,” where kids may sit and color or do a book activity. If you have coloring or activity books that you would like to donate to this area, let us know at office@uucastine.org

A Conversation Carter Heyward

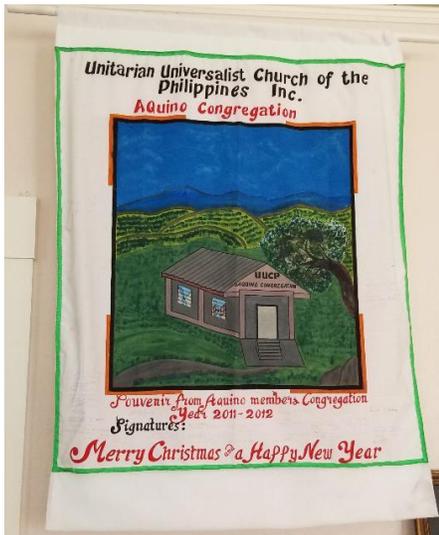
The Maine Council of Churches and the BTS Center (formerly Bangor Theological Seminary) present an opportunity to discuss the threats and realities of Christian Nationalism.

The Seven Deadly Sins of White Christian Nationalism book event; Co-hosted by the Maine Council of Churches and The BTS Center.

Wednesday, September 21, 2022, 4 - 5:30 pm (Eastern) • online. To register, go to <https://thebtscenter.org/>



Our Partner Church - Aquino UUPC Congregation



Our congregation has been in partnership with the UU Congregation of Aquino in The Philippines for many years. We help to support this small very rural and struggling congregation with financial support for the operation of the church and to help defray the costs to send children to school – which is not free in this part of The Philippines.

When Covid-19 struck the world, we lost touch with our friends in Aquino due to a severe lack of communications infrastructure. Students did not go to school for 2 years. Now, they are back in school! Happy Days for these young people. And, communications are coming back online.

We gather our many resources to support our partners in our UU faith. Below you will see their budget requests. This is a small amount for us and a very great help for them. Our UUCC general annual budget includes financial support for the Aquino congregation. Our many members and friends contribute to our “Dollars for Scholars” program to send money for tuition, books, lunches, and uniforms. Your contribution of \$100 to \$400 to UUCC Dollars for Scholars makes this vital program possible. Please watch for an appeal letter in the coming weeks, or better yet, make your contribution now. Thank you!

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Proposed Budget

	Amount in Peso	Amount in US \$
RE and Office Supplies	10,000	175.76
Feeding Program	30,000	527.28
RE Teachers’ Stipend (3 Teachers)	21,600	379.64
Minister’s Stipend (2)	12,000	210.91
Coordinator’s Stipend	8,000	140.61
Student Support		
Elementary	43,200	759.28
High School	211,200	3712.04
Overall Total	336,000	5905.51

13 Elementary and 18 Secondary Students = about US\$ 4,500
 Support for the Aquino Congregation’s operating budget = about US \$1,500
 OR, roughly \$6,000 total
 with a bit extra for the exchange fee on their end.

