

Camino Seguro, Guatemala: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

Hanley Denning, a former resident of Yarmouth, Maine, traveled to Guatemala in 1997 as a way to improve her Spanish. Just before she was about to leave to return to the United States, a friend of hers asked her to visit the slums surrounding the Guatemala City dump. That visit changed Hanley's life. She saw children and mothers working at the city dump—their only means of survival. But Hanley was determined to provide a means by which the children could get out of poverty, and so in 1999 she started Safe Passage (Camino Seguro).

Safe Passage, an educational reinforcement program, started with 40 children in a broken-down church. Thirteen years later, Safe Passage is

A Mayan child in the pre-school program at Safe Passage.



helping over 500 children and their families in two new buildings. Safe Passage provides the money for students' enrollment fee, uniforms, and

books for the portion of the day that they are at public school. The rest of the day the students stay at Safe Passage receiving help with their studies, nutritional meals, potable water, and medical care. Numerous graduating students have received grants and scholarships to attend colleges in the United States.

Support Teams go to Safe Passage for a week to be with the pre-school children in the guarderia (a day-care center), and with the older children in their classrooms. Teams help students with their English, and work with one class on a project provided by the team itself. A team will also take a class on Saturday



A class of students learning English at Safe Passage.

October Sunday Services

Summer services start at 10:00 AM at the UU Church of Belfast, 37 Miller St., behind the Belfast Free Library. Please call 338-4482 for more information. Children, infants and new faces are always welcome.

Please join us!

OCT. 7 Our own Rev. Deane Perkins will be speaking

OCT. 14 **Bringing Phoenix to Belfast**
with Rick Davis

Why was the 2012 UUA General Assembly called a “Justice GA”? What does that mean for our church in Belfast? Find out as Rick Davis shares his transformational experiences attending this year’s GA.

OCT. 21 Recognizing and Responding to the Call in the 21st Century
with Jen Wixon

She will be speaking about following our passions (rather than our fears) to help create God-ness in the 21st century. When we feel that inner sigh of relief in our souls — rather than the gnawing of anxiety upon our bones — we know we are going in the right direction. Jen is also planning to offer some Quaker tips, advice and history as tools for spiritual connection and personal action.

OCT. 28 Our own Rev. Deane Perkins will be speaking

NOV. 4 Our own Rev. Deane Perkins will be speaking

to some outing, perhaps to go swimming at the ocean, which many of the children have never seen.

The Senior High Youth from the Bangor, Belfast and Ellsworth UU churches who went to New Orleans on a service trip last April decided that they would like to form a support team to go to Camino Seguro in July of 2014. They decided that this year they would like to do social action activities locally, such as working with the Food Cupboard and Habitat for Humanity. So there seems to be a three-year cycle taking place, where the youth do something nationally, locally, and internationally, though there is always the opportunity each year to do a multitude of activities locally.

Why is this important? These major projects require a great deal of work and resources, including financial

support from the congregation. Why do this? To make a difference—to put our faith into action. To help heal the world. These are essential elements of our faith community as Unitarian Universalists. If we really believe in the interdependent web of life, as well as the inherent worth and dignity of each and every human being, then it is incumbent upon us to serve all humanity as best we can. Our faith crosses borders. Our motive is not to do traditional missionary work; rather, it is to do service so that all people can meet their basic, fundamental needs. Sometimes that means helping to build a home in Searsport, or in New Orleans. Sometimes that means supporting, loving, and being present to the Mayan children who live off the Guatemala City dump, and who experience extreme poverty and often abuse on a daily basis.

Why are these service projects important to our youth? Because these kinds of experiences are transformational. We heard the New Orleans group speak last year at a worship service about how meaningful their experience was. Is this not part of our service to our children, to give them the opportunities that touch their minds and hearts and souls in an intimate way? Granted, transformational experiences can happen anywhere, anytime. But there is something unique, for example, in being in a foreign context where we might not know the language, we are unfamiliar with the culture, and we feel particularly vulnerable. Our service projects—our spiritual pilgrimages—are meant to be a way for our youth to be open to what is deepest inside them, and to feel safe in doing so.

If you have questions about what the youth are doing and why, feel free to ask them. They’re our kids. And they need to know we care about them and support them, wherever they do service in the name and spirit of our congregation.

Life of the Church

Taking My Seat—A reflection on change – by Jane Dopheide

It has been three months since I joined the church council as Co-Chair—moving into the nicely-warmed chair left by the very able Debbie Bailly and others before her.

In this my first “Life of the Church” column, I am choosing to not provide facts and figures or promote any worthy cause—as important as that is in this role. I want, instead, to reflect on what this role feels like as we move into the deep and crucial process of both creating a church-wide covenant and a new and vibrant mis-

October greeters

- Oct. 7 Judith Simpson & Marion Brown
- Oct. 14 Francine Brown & Dagmar Morevec & Mackenzie
- Oct. 21 Gina Cressey & Ezra Kreamer
- Oct. 28 Mayme Trumble & Anna Wood-Cox

I want folks to know that I am torn, at times, as I know others are with all our growth and change. Are we moving too fast without considering everyone's opinion and feelings toward change? I find myself yearning for the church family that we once were –for the pastoral church that we never had a real chance to experience –having a solid relationship with a full-time minister at the helm. I wonder why we just can't take the time to enjoy the full time presence and leadership of Rev. Deane in balance with more fully supported lay and guest services?

sion-a time to deepen our community and our commitments.

As with so many things in our UU world, the role of Co-Chair is rather loosely defined –leaving room for the two who share this title to develop their own working relationship in handling the tasks at hand. I am grateful to have Rick Davis as my senior partner –a person very experienced in governance as well as the guidance, leadership and partnership of Rev. Deane and a terrifically competent council and staff. An extra bonus, thankfully, is that good humor is most often a hallmark of our work together.

As some may know, I have worn a number of hats in the history of our young church. All have been very specific in their focus, including children's religious exploration, fundraising, services, and most recently the ministerial search process. Although I have enjoyed those experiences (most often) and grew personally from wearing those hats, the move from hat to chair feels very different –BIG picture different to be specific –especially in this point in our history.

I am discovering that the role of Co-Chair involves knowing a lot about a lot of things and knowing how to keep the wheels oiled and working by being open and available, listening well and communicating honestly and in a timely manner. Please know that these are high priorities for me but am bound to slip up from time to time. I ask your patience and forgiveness in advance.

In addition and in contrast, perhaps,

ings toward change? I find myself yearning for the church family that we once were –for the pastoral church that we never had a real chance to experience –having a solid relationship with a full-time minister at the helm. I wonder why we just can't take the time to enjoy the full time presence and leadership of Rev. Deane in balance with more fully supported lay and guest services?

Then, I feel the excitement and potential of “the more” that we can be and do. I see and feel every week an abundance of love and excitement, hope and new ideas. I can't help but want to move forward –thoughtfully and with priority but forward –former hats in hand and seat belt buckled!

I look forward to both the ride AND where we will be when it is time for me to leave a warm chair for someone else to fill.

Jane Dopheide
Co-Chair

Book group

The UU Book Group book meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6:30 PM in the UU Church meeting room. Please join us for discussion and bring suggestions for future reading. For more information, contact Wendy Watkins (207) 342-4246.

Fall “New to UU” classes

Have you been coming to church and feel that you may be ready to join? Do you have lots of questions about

WHO'S WHO & WHO TO CALL

- Minister
Rev. Deane Perkins 338-4482
minister@uubelfast.org
- Administrative Assistant
Maret Knight 338-4482
Email: office@uubelfast.org
office hrs: Mon. & Thurs. 8:30-12:30
- Church Council
Jane Dopheide 338-1730
Rick Davis 930-3562
- LifeSpan Education
Sue Coe 691-5153
- Children's Religious Exploration
Danielle Bannister 342-2096
- Music
Lila Nation 338-5002
- Finances
Roger Lee (treas) 338-6837
- Sunday Services
Jessie Gower 525-4427
- Membership Chair
Corliss Davis 930-3562
- Social Action
Stephen Allen 338-0613
- Congregational Life
Chip Curry 930-3590
- Green Sanctuary
Jasmine Fowler 342-3260
Corliss Davis 930-3562
- Buddhist Sangha
Judith Simpson 338-0579
- Caring Circle
Ezra Kreamer 338-0129
- Welcoming Congregation
Patty Smith 338-5802
- Sound Coordinator
Cary Bradford 338-8448
- Hospitality
Chris LeGore 589-4421
- Nominating Committee chair
Ezra Kraemer 338-0129
- Endowment Committee
D Andrews
- Greeters
Marty Daniels 338-0129
- Newsletter
Douglas M. Coffin 567-3707

To change address, tel. no., email, newsletter status, or to subscribe to the UUBB or UUCC, email office@uubelfast.org

Unitarian Universalism that you would like answered before moving ahead with membership? If so, then we have just the class for you!

This fall, the UUCB will be offering a “New to UU” class over the course of four weeks beginning the third week of October. The class will be held Oct. 21st, Oct. 28th, Nov. 4th, and Nov. 11th from 1:30 to 3:30 at the church. It will be facilitated by Rev. Deane Perkins and Council Member-at-large Marty Daniels. Child care and light refreshments will be provided.

The topic of the first class will be “Sharing Personal Religious Odysseys.” Participants will have an opportunity to share their religious backgrounds and discuss what drew them to Unitarian Universalism.

The second class will focus on the history of both Unitarianism and Universalism and how that has shaped the modern Unitarian Universalist denomination.

The third class will look at the our own church here in Belfast, its history and the way in which it is organized today. This class will include many guest speakers from the leadership of the church.

The final class will be a more informal discussion about faith and belief, and an opportunity to ask any questions participants may still have.

Rev. Deane strongly urges anyone considering joining the UUCB to take this class. Past participants have found the class to be enlightening, fun, and a great way to get to know other people within our community.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Corliss Davis of the Membership Committee. She can be reached at 930-3562 or cdavis5468@roadrunner.com. It is important that people who are interested let us know ahead of time so that we can plan

Dear Friends,

The other day someone came into my office and, before either of us realized it, two and a half hours had passed. It was, for me, a gift to have that kind of space and time to talk, to get to know one another better, to solve all the problems of the world...!

I hope more people from the congregation will come into my office this year so we can talk. Or feel free to join me for our brown bag lunch on Mondays. For those who would like a visit at home, please let me know as well. It's important to me that we get better acquainted apart from committees!

My regular office hours are Monday and Thursday mornings, from 9-12, and on Wednesday evening from 4-5:30. If those don't work, we'll find another time.

Fondly,
Deane

appropriately.

We hope to see you at the class!

Social Action Committee

The Social Action Committee took part of the summer off by not having any meetings in July or August. But our first meeting after that was Sept. 7. The SAC, like many of the church's committees, suffer from a lack of members. This is a very valuable committee with a lot of good projects in the past, present, and future, so we could use a few more members. We recently posted on our bulletin board in the hospitality room a list of the many projects and sponsorships we have been involved in for the past two years and the ones

we are planning in the future, so we hope you will take a look at that list. See anything you like? Then join and help out.

One of our major projects of the past year has been to improve accessibility to the ambulatory disabled who would like to visit our downtown Belfast businesses. We were told when we started this project a year ago that “This has been talked about for forty years, but nothing has ever come of it.” Despite that, of the many non-compliant businesses to the ADA Act of 1990, that we started with, we now have an 85% compliance rate—and most of the store owners seem to be quite happy with it. There's only a few holdout businesses now—and they also are listed on our bulletin board.

Our big project for September was the preparation of a program entitled “What You Need to Know Before Joining the Military.” This program, meant to question many of the promises of military recruiters who are allowed to take over the high school lobby to recruit students, was coordinated by Stephen Allen and Dan Avener, both of them veterans of the U.S. Army.

Other future projects in which we are engaged are: special collections a couple of times a year for worthy groups in our own area; writing letters in behalf of Amnesty International to political prisoners around the world; supporting films and programs along with the Waldo County Peace & Justice Group; working closely with the Peace Advocacy Group to try and make our church a Peace Advocacy Congregation; sponsoring speakers on world social justice issues; providing some basic needs to soldiers in military hospitals in Maine; support of International Human Rights Day on Dec. 10.

And more. If you have a special project you would like to see us work on—and it falls into the category of Social Action, tell us what it is and if you would be willing to work on it with us.



Quilt raffle!!!

This year's fundraising efforts include the sale of tickets for a quilt raffle. The quilt was made and donated by a member of the church. It is queen size and made in the traditional Log Cabin pattern using the "Fields and Furrows" setting. Log Cabin has been called the quintessential American quilt pattern. The height of popularity for Log Cabin quilts was the second half of the nineteenth century—the period corresponding to American westward migration. It is said that the red center square of each block represents the fire in the cabin's hearth, the light fabrics represent the sunny side of the cabin and the dark fabrics the shady side.

The quilt will be hanging in the sanctuary at most services this fall and tickets will be available after the service. Tickets are \$1.00 each and six for \$5.00. The drawing will be held on Sunday, December 2nd and the winner need not be present. This

is an easy and low cost way for everyone to help with our fundraising efforts-- just think that if every family in the church bought \$10.00 worth of tickets we could make well over \$1,000 on this project!

Too young to sing!

If you don't believe that for an instant, we've got some very exciting news for you!! Both Frets Halligan, the ukulele man, and I have agreed to start up a Children's Choir AND a Youth Choir. The Children's Choir will be for ages 5 through 10, and the Youth Choir will be for ages 11 through high school. The focus of both choirs will be to get our children and young people singing—making music together, listening to each other, and learning to feel confident in front of a large group.

The Children's choir will learn to sing a variety of simple songs, and to play some basic chords on the ukulele, while the Youth Choir will be learning some sight-reading techniques, and how to sing in harmony.

Our organizational meeting will be immediately after church, Sunday, Oct. 21, from 11:30 AM until approx. 12:15 PM, and we will determine what the best rehearsal days and hours would be for the greatest number of participants.

So-o-o if you're between the ages of 5 and 18, bring your parents, and if you're a parent, bring your children. **GET READY! IT'S TIME!**

Lila Nation

Music Director, 338-5002

Church members and friends!

Update of our photo bulletin board in the church hallway is on-going! If you would like to have a new photo on the board, bring in a small one of

yourself and or family, with names on the back. Place your photo in the envelope at the bottom of the photo board.

We especially want new members and friends to have a photo on the board and we want our longtime members to be recognizable to our new members.

News from the Space Needs Task Force

The UU Church of Belfast, our home, is growing. We have increased numbers of children in RE and a large and growing youth group. Adult life span programming and community building offerings have expanded and participation is growing. In response to this exciting growth, last March, the Church Council authorized the formation of the Space Needs Task Force. The committee includes Gemma Scott, Jan Anderson, Michael Bowe, Roger Lee, and chairperson Sarah Nicholson, with Deane Perkins also participating.

Last spring, the Space Needs Task Force held a series of Cottage meetings to solicit input from attendees on perceptions of our space needs. The overwhelming consensus is that we need to have a physical space that better meets our needs, and that this is a high priority. We thank all who came to the meetings and provided this input.

During the summer the Space Needs Task Force planned and coordinated renovations on our R.E. space upstairs, with contractor Scott King doing the construction and a large team of church volunteers doing the painting. If you have not yet seen the new improved R.E. area, you are invited to check it out.

In the coming months, the Task

Have questions about Unitarian Universalists or the Belfast Church? Here is your opportunity.

Meet with minister Deane Perkins, for answers to any questions you may have about UUs and our congregation.

**SUNDAY--OCT. 7
11:30-12:15**

In the minister's office.

Force will identify and retain the services of an architect to help identify the challenges and opportunities of building renovation and construction options. Before we do this we need further direction and input from the congregation, which we will solicit by means of a survey. The survey questions are drawn from the input we received in the cottage meetings and is designed to provide more depth and understanding of our needs and possible solutions. The survey will be ready by early October. Your responses are vital to the process of developing plans.

We encourage your continued awareness and involvement in the work we are doing and we look forward to your participation in the survey.

Thanks, *Jan Anderson*

THE SPACE CADETS

Annual fall clothing sale

OCT 12 & 13 – The UU Belfast Fall Clothing Sale has gained a reputation for being “Not Your Average Clothing Sale.” That’s because of its high quality clothes, its easy-to-shop organization, the stylish “finds” available there, to say nothing of Scott Bailly’s live piano music in the background!

For the congregation, it’s the opportunity to pass on some of our excess clothing, find some bargains to spice up our wardrobes, have fun working together, all the while making money to run the church! Leftover clothing goes to a charity where it will be given away -- another benefit of our labors.

Set up will start after the service on Sun. Oct. 7 and continue through the week. Donations should be brought by Tuesday. The sale will open Friday evenings 5:00-7:00 and continue Saturday 8:00-noon. A bag sale will be held for the last hour, followed by clean-up.

SO... 1) Clean out your closet. 2) Sign up to help. 3) Come and shop.

For information, contact Francine Brown (fbrown711@roadrunner.com or 338-2187

UUCB website redesign

Quick Quiz:

Do you have an eye for color and

design?

Do you take pride in your logical mind?

Do you believe that there are people in our community who would be interested in who we are but who don’t know about us?

Would you like to do something for the church that does not require you to make a long-term commitment right now?

Would you like to see a more inviting and interesting website for the church?

If you answered “yes” or even “maybe” to any of these questions, please consider becoming part of a limited-time Task Force to help redesign our church’s website. If you have looked at it lately (if not, look at it right now), you know that it needs work. Our website may not need bells or whistles, or even slide shows, but we do need more color, more options, a more inviting look. You can make that happen! Your opinions are valuable, whether you

DEADLINE CLOSING IN!!!

for contributions to

a UU Church of Belfast COOKBOOK with all your favorite recipes!

- Fall Harvest Foods • Family Treasures • Kids Favorites • Special Dietary Needs • All of your Favorites!! • Regardless of the category • please send your recipes!

Copyright concerns?? - ingredient lists are not copyrighted. Your annotations, alternations and tips in the instructions make them unique.

So please include your favorites from online and cookbooks.

To submit your recipes: Place them in the “Recipe Box” in the hospitality room, email them to Susan Coe (blsky13@yahoo.com), or mail them to her at 263 High St. #2 Belfast, 04915. Be sure to put your name on your recipes!

Feel free to include anecdotes, photos, illustrations, or anything else that tells the recipe’s story. If you would like your recipe returned, please put a note on it. Questions??? Call or email Sue Cobb at 338-6776/alaughingdog@gmail.com, or Susan Coe at 691-5153/blsky13@yahoo.com

are a long-time member or a new-comer.

Even if you aren't sure this is for you or you think maybe you'd be interested, send Rick Davis an email

or give him a call and he'll try to answer any questions you might have. Help us turn our website into an exciting, informative source for everything a visitor – or a member –

might want to know.

Send e-mails to rdavis5468@roadrunner.com. Or call 930-3562.

Thanks for your help! *Rick Davis*