

WE ARE A VIBRANT, inter-generational faith community, inspired by thought and spirit and grounded in love. Our mission is to honor differences and to foster peace, justice, and sustainability in ourselves and in our world.

SAVE THE DATE: NOVEMBER 15

Congregational Vote on Building Project

By Jan Anderson

On November 15, after the Worship Service, the Space Needs Team is asking for a congregational vote to authorize a capital campaign to support the proposed building project (as described below). The targeted sum of money for this building project is \$700,000.

The building project the Space Needs Team is proposing to the congregation is to return our sanctuary to its historic location in the upstairs of our building and to create new religious exploration classrooms, meeting rooms, administration office and minister's office in the downstairs. We will install an elevator and fire escape stairway and additional bathrooms, as well as a sprinkler system to satisfy fire and safety codes. We may also create a storage

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area in the space in our current basement closest to the stairs, with adequate ventilation and access from the elevator.

So, what does it mean to vote "yes" on November 15 to begin a capital campaign?

To begin with, it means that we pledge to work together as a congregation of loving and forgiving individuals; to trust each other as we engage in this process; to be transparent in our decisions and debates; to accept into our homes a visitor from the capital campaign committee and to talk openly about the cam-

paign and the financial needs of the building project; and to share our personal gifts and skills to help the campaign and the building project move forward.

A "yes" vote approves the concept for the building project as we understand it in its beginning stage and a target goal of \$700,000.

It authorizes the campaign to begin in January, 2016 and end in March, 2016.

A "yes" vote authorizes the election of at least two co-chairs for the capital campaign and the hiring of Full Harvest Fundraising as our consultants.

Finally, and not least important, a "yes" vote is an expression of faith. Faith in our history, faith in the future, and faith in our shared commitment to be a spiritual beacon in Belfast and the surrounding communities.

We will need a quorum of the membership for this vote.

Please plan to attend.

Life of the Church

By Marty Daniels, President
November 2015

Early this fall, Danielle was asked whether the UUCB had any kind of lock-down policy. As any of you who have worked in the public schools know, the term "lock-down" refers to the practice of teachers locking their doors, covering their windows, and hunkering down with

their students in absolute silence while the administrators check all the doors. Teachers are asked to identify the most secure and least visible spot in their room for these drills. Often this is a closet or, if it's a primary room, a bathroom. Sometimes it's the space behind and under the teacher's desk or behind the cubbies.

The purpose, of course, is to practice for the possibility of a mass

shooting. Think Columbine High School in Colorado or Sandy Hook Elementary in Newton, Connecticut. The idea is that by locking themselves in and hiding in the least visible part of the room, teachers can protect their students from a gunman.

When Danielle first approached me, I went on line and checked out the UUA web site to see if they had any

recommendations. There was nothing pertaining to lock-down procedures. I then called Mike McFadden of the Belfast Police Department, and asked if he knew of any churches in the area that had such procedures in place. He did not know of any, but offered to come in and do what he called “table-top exercises”, in which the staff and volunteers would practice worst-case scenarios and create some appropriate procedures.

All the while that I was researching this, there was a little uneasiness gnawing at my heart. I couldn't quite put my finger on what was bothering me until Danielle sent around an article written by a primary public school teacher. She described a lock-down drill where the acting principal first forgot to alert the staff on the intercom that this was a drill, and then took much longer than usual to come around and check the doors. This teacher sat in the closet in the dark with her young students for a full 13 minutes. All the while she was not sure whether it was just a drill or the real thing.

Reading that article helped me identify what had been nagging at me. Lock-down drills are all about fear. They are about protecting ourselves from the unidentified and unidentifiable crazy people in the world who might want to do us harm.

Where does that leave us as a spiritual community?

As a church, aren't we supposed to be open and welcoming? How does practicing lock-down procedures fit with our Seven Principles? What lessons are we teaching our children?

I remember the bomb drills we used to do in school in the early 1960's. We practiced kneeling under our desks with our arms over our heads. This was supposed to protect us from

November Sunday Services

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!

NOV 1 *Rev. Deane Perkins*

NOV 8 *Rev. Mark Gloven (UU Minister from Rockland)*

NOV 15 **Patriotism as a Spiritual Practice?**
Rev. Dr. Duncan Newcomer

Patriotism is a certain kind of love. Does it have a spiritual future? In the sermon on the 15th, the week following Armistice Day, and the presentation and conversation on Tuesday night at a workshop open to the public at 7:00 PM at the UU, we will look at the potential for patriotism to have spiritual practice worth as well as moral and political value. Coming off of a six-week seminar on The Idea of America at the Hutchinson Center, Duncan will take a look back and look forward to see if patriotism is redeemable and to help you think--and to feel-- about that as well.

NOV 22 *Rev. Deane Perkins*

NOV 29 **Agape Feast**
Worship Arts

Worship Arts will deliver another Agape Feast service, also known as a Love Feast. This will be a special time for members of our congregation to share the traditional holiday foods they grew up with through stories and food offerings. The act of sharing food is a sacred practice, and we will give thanks for the traditions which have helped shape us.

DEC 6 *Rev. Deane Perkins*

radioactive fall-out in case of a nuclear attack. Even as a six-year-old, I recognized the complete inadequacy of this so-called protection.

So Danielle and I talked again, and Danielle talked to the RE guides and sent out an e-mail to the RE parents. The general consensus that has emerged is that we do not want to teach our children that church is a place where we need to be afraid. So we will not be doing lock-down drills at UUCB.

On the other hand, we are realists. We know that lock-down drills were developed because all too sadly, mass shootings are a weekly reality

in this country, and churches are not immune. As we design our building renovations, we have an excellent opportunity to explore ways to protect our children while upholding the principles we hold dear.

This winter, Danielle and the RE guides will talk about what to do should a situation arise in our church. They will invite input from parents and other church members. It is a good thing to spend time wrestling with these kinds of issues. It provides us with an opportunity to think deeply about who we are, what we value, and how we want to be in the world.

Religious Exploration

Now that we have a few weeks under our belts in RE, I wanted to take a moment to give you a bit of an update on each room.

Our Child Care room has moved to the other half of the hospitality room to make room for our hospitality area and now has a full wall up to help reduce the noise issue so the kids won't have to keep their voices down (never easy to do with little ones!) We have the sound piped into that room now and we have one adult and two teens staffed in this room each Sunday.

Our Primary Room (Grades K-2) is doing Spirit Play which tells UU-based stories using props and storytelling and has, so far, proven to be quite engaging for our wiggly bodies.

The Intermediate Room (Grades 3-5) is using a UUA curricula "Windows and Mirrors" where the kids will decorate window/mirror style panels to aid them as they dig into deeper questions about who they are and how the world sees them. These will go on display once they are done.

The COA Room (Middle school) has a thriving group this year. We have been doing a Questioning year focusing on 4 quests: Inner faith formation, UU Identity, Action (social justice) and Mystery (the big questions). This year they will have 4 sleep-over retreats and will be paired up with mentors within the church in November.

Our High school students (YRUU) Under the care of Jessica Falconer, myself or Deane, meet two Sundays a month after church. Once for YRUU and once to meet for the Service project trips. As a group, they have volunteered on the first Sunday of the month to help in RE which has been wonderful. The youth are once again gearing up to start plans for their service project

trips over the next few years.

And finally, this year we are excited to offer OWL (Our Whole Lives) a faith and values based UUA and UUC created instruction on sexual education. This is, by far, the most comprehensive and well designed curricula out there. It requires special training which Michael Scott and Jessica Falconer took last year in preparation for this class. Both Deane and I have taken it and can't speak highly enough about the level of information it provides to our youth. It is being offered to grades 10-12 and will happen in Jan/Feb over 4 weekend retreats. There will be mandatory parent informational meetings coming in November so keep an eye out for that if you are interested in having your youth participate or talk to Jessica or Michael for more information.

If you would like to help out as a guide or mentor, our program could REALLY use some help. The work is easy and rewarding. Contact dre@uubelfast.org or call Danielle at 505-5383 for more information.

Your DRE, *Danielle Bannister*

Directory Data

It's time to look forward to the new year, with a new church directory of UU Church members and friends. Please send your current contact info (and maybe a new photo!) to Maret at office@uubelfast.org.

WHO'S WHO AND 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

Chris LeGore 589-4421
Marty Daniels 338-0129

LifeSpan Education

Susan Coe 691-5153
Linda Buckmaster 338-1701

Children's Religious Exploration

Danielle Bannister 505-5383

Music

Karen Nelson 338-0499

Finances

Michael Scott (treas) 322-6016

Sunday Services

Mandi Thomas 322-8123

Membership Chair

Marje Stickler 338-5059

Congregational Life

Cheryl Richardson 342-4649

Green Sanctuary

Jasmine Fowler 342-3260
Corliss Davis 930-3562

Buddhist Sangha

Judith Simpson 338-0579

Caring Circle

Patty Smith 338-5802

Safe Congregation

Tera Kennedy 342-5470

LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation

Patty Heath (802) 473-6945

Sound Coordinator

Cary Bradford 338-8448

Hospitality

Cheryl & Arthur Richardson 342-4649

Nominating Committee chair

Judith Grace 338-4408

Endowment Committee

Margie Shannon 218-4033

Greeters

Jennifer Kirchoff 975-1913

Communications

Wendy Watkins 342-4246

Newsletter

Douglas M. Coffin 567-3707

To change address, tel. no., email, newsletter status, or to subscribe to the UUBB or UUC, email office@uubelfast.org. Website contributions: content@uubelfast.org

Legacy giving

The new www.UUBelfast.org web site now features a link under "Stewardship" called "Legacy Giving". This link reflects a new initiative by members of the recent past and present Endowment Committee to raise awareness of Legacy Giving.

So, what is Legacy Giving?

Legacy Giving focuses on providing funds over the long term for future needs. This differs from pledges to the Annual Budget, which focuses on the year-to-year expenses. The UU Belfast Endowment Fund Committee is charged to encourage, receive, and administer legacy gifts made through transfers of property,

charitable bequests in wills and trusts, assignment of life insurance or retirement plans, and other similar bequests.

The new link in the web site provides a download of a new "brochure" that Susan Coe beautifully put into a two page format. This "brochure" provides a more detailed summary of the many options available for Legacy Giving. Contact information is also available here as well as in the "brochure"..

Rick Davis, Chair	930-3562
rdavis5468@roadrunner.com	
Scott Denman	342-4246
sdenman@earthlink.net	
John Krueger	338-8676
Jkrueg1@gmail.com	

Congregational Life has the following funtivities planned for November and December.

November 14 --- holiday cookie-making in the kitchen at UUCB; 9:00 AM. CongoLife will supply icing and decorations. FMI: Megan Eckhardt: oliverutah201013@aol.com OR Jessica Falconer: jessica.k.falconer@gmail.com, 322-9987

November 18 --- pie making! Beginning at 6:30 in the UUCB kitchen. Please bring your own pie plate, pie crust and fillings. Margie Shannon is the host of this event. mmshannon@mainecohousing.org, 218-4033

December 5 --- wreath making and Pomanders (oranges studded with cloves). 9:00 AM-noon. CongoLife will provide the oranges and cloves. We will have some decorations with which to adorn the wreaths; feel free to bring your favorite decorations. There will be wreath bases ready for decorating. FMI Cheryl Richardson: a_cinitaly@yahoo.com, 342-4649.

Mid-December --- caroling (Date to be announced.)-- Meet at UUCB at 6:30 PM. We'll carol around town, mostly to those who cannot leave their homes. After singing, we'll return to the UUCB for cookies and hot chocolate. Sarah Nicholson is hosting this event: snicholson@woodardcurran.com, 632-5039.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT CHERYL RICHARDSON AT a_cinitaly@yahoo.com or 342-4649.

CongoLife is looking forward to all the funtivities!! Is there a funtivity you'd like to see happen?? Let us know!!

New Adult Learning Programs**SEASONED SOULS**

Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30

Beginning November 3

Rev. Deane Perkins

It has been said that aging is a work of art. As we age, it is nice to think of ourselves as still creating ourselves, as persons who are still becoming. Seasoned Souls (the name comes from Eliza Blanchard's book, The Seasoned Soul) will be an offering by Rev. Deane for those who are 65 or older, to take place on Tuesday mornings from 10-11:30 AM at church, starting Nov. 3. This is meant to be a weekly conversation about what it means to grow older, and what aging means to us spiritually. If you think you will attend, please let Deane (deaneperkins@gmail.com) know. There will be some short readings that he will send to you as well.

PATRIOTISM AS SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Tuesday, November 17

6:30-8:30 PM

UU Church Sanctuary

A talk and discussion with Rev.

Duncan Newcomer

At the 1916 Democratic National Convention, the largest rally was for Patriotic Pacifism. What has happened to patriotism in the last 100 years? What should its future be? How does patriotism connect with the values that UUs hold dear, and how does it fit in with our Peace Advocacy work?

This will be a followup workshop to Newcomer's sermon at the UU Church of Belfast on Sunday, November 15 at 10:00 AM. There will be power point images and time for dialogue. Join us for the Sunday service and this timely conversation. Open to all.

Please Join Congregational Life

In the Sanctuary, Friday Evening, October 30, at 5:30 PM
For UUCB's (First Annual)

Potluck Harvest Dinner AND Pumpkin Carving Contest

CongoLife is sponsoring a Potluck Harvest Dinner and pumpkin carving contest - everyone is invited! Please bring already carved pumpkin(s) for judging between 5:30 and 6:00. After the contest, we'll put candles in the pumpkins for decorating the tables in the sanctuary.

The theme of the Harvest Dinner is - you guessed it - PUMPKINS! Any dish you can imagine made with pumpkins and fall veggies: soups, casseroles, breads, desserts and more.

Jennifer Howard is going to dazzle us with her soon-to-be famous face painting!!

AND 'The Wandering Souls Writing Group' will be reading pieces of writing that they have been working on since the Spring.

Wear your favorite Fall harvest attire OR your favorite Halloween costume!

As you can see, there will be lots and lots of fun for EVERYONE!

Hope to see YOU there!! For More Information:

Jan Anderson / jdanders5@gmail.com / 338-1429 OR
Cheryl Richardson / a_cinitaly@yahoo.com / 342-4649

Shared Plate

The Shared Plate Recipient for November is PEOPLE FOR PEOPLE. This local effort raises funds for holiday food baskets for Waldo County families in need. Last year's effort provided 600 baskets for Thanksgiving and 1,000 baskets for Christmas. The proceeds of our Sunday Worship collections for the month of November will help support this vital community service.

Reminders from the office:

(from Maret)

- Please be sure that BOTH doors are locked if you are the last one leaving the church.
- Please contact Maret in the office if you want to schedule an activity at church. However, if you are starting to look for an open date, you can check the online calendar at uubelfast.org to see what is already scheduled.
- Please send any church publicity material to content@uubelfast.org to be included on the website.

Clothing Sale Report

Once again, many hands and hearts came together to make our annual Clothing Sale a BIG success! To begin with, we had the best quality donations EVER and consistent, good humored help throughout the entire week and during the sale.

We were delighted to welcome three new volunteers from the greater community Christine, Nancy and Paula. From numerous comments heard during the sale, it is clear that many in the Belfast community both look forward to and appreciate this event.

We are pleased to report that all leftovers with the exception of the boutique were given to the Dexter group raising money for a teen center.

As always, our deepest thanks go to our loving husbands, Bill and Jeffrey, for their constant support.

We are particularly grateful to Debbie Bailly, Betsy Reed, Francine Brown, Chris LeGore and Christine Samuelson who spent many hours helping throughout the week.

Additional help was given by Chip, Corliss, Dean, Deane, Jennifer, Joanne, Linda, Lora, Lucy, Maret, Marje, Margorie, Martha, Marty, Michael, Patty, Paula, Rebecca, Sandy K and Sandy S. Apologies to any we missed.

Once the boutique comes down on Sunday Oct. 25, the profits from the sale are expected to top \$3,000-going toward the \$17,000 fundraising goal for the operating budget.

Judith Grace and Jane Dopheide