

VOL. 23, No. 6
JUNE • 2017

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.

Life of the Church

Marty Daniels, President
Walk into our building at 37 Miller Street on any given day lately, and you will find 6-12 people hard at work. There are the sprinkler guys, and the sheet rock guys, and ceiling guys. There are electricians and plumbers and heating specialists. And then there are the volunteers.

On any given day, you will find Jan Anderson painting the downstairs. As often as not, Eileen Wolper will be there with her, rolling paint onto those 11-foot high hall walls while Jan cuts in around the ceilings and corners. Upstairs in the sanctuary, you will find Roger Lee doggedly working to stabilize the old plaster walls, drilling small holes on either side of the cracks, filling them with glue, and tightening the plaster against the lathe with screws and washers. Scott King is at work in the kitchen, reinstalling the cabinets and cupboards he built for us 15 years ago. Out back, Jay Legore is building a covered stoop and stairs at the new back door.

Other people have pitched in as well. Morten Moesswilde and Chip Curry joined Jay and Roger to help install ceiling clips to stabilize the plaster and lathe above the tin ceiling. Scott Denman is sanding the sills, Corliss Davis, Marty Daniels, and Chris LeGore have all

done stints of painting. And then there was the crew from the Waldo County Reentry Center who helped move the kitchen cabinets and appliances from storage back into the church, and the church volunteers who shifted those same cabinets from the meeting room into the hall so the ceiling guys could continue with their work. There's the group that went with Ellie Daniels a few weeks ago to retrieve a spinet piano generously donated to us by Wayne Snyder (Dick Snyder's brother and Katherine Snyder's father). There's Douglas Coffin, who volunteered to drive the big U-Haul truck the day the cabinets were brought from storage, and Linda Buckmaster, who is helping Marty Daniels coordinate that move and the "Mother of all Moves" that will happen June 27th. And I am sure there are others who have volunteered in ways that I am not even aware of!

Phew! I knew we were a church with lots of energy, or we wouldn't have been able to accomplish all that we have done in our short history. But watching all these volunteers hard at work, and knowing that we can put out a call for this or that job and people will inevitably step up, is truly inspirational. I cannot begin to express my gratitude to all of you. Thank you, thank you, thank you!
Blessed be.

Annual meeting will be Sunday June 4th at 11:30 following the service

We will be voting on the following items:

1. By-Laws language to create a Finance Committee to oversee the larger financial well-being of our church. The By-Law will read:

Add a new Section 6.11. Finance Committee
"The Finance Committee is responsible for advising the Council about issues concerning the overall financial health and functioning of the church, including the annual operating budget and long-term financial planning. The Finance Committee shall consist of three Voting Members of the church, elected at the Annual Meeting to staggered three-year terms. Members of the Finance Committee shall serve for no more than two consecutive three-year terms. The Church Council shall have the power to appoint members to serve out unexpired terms. The church Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Finance Committee."

Add to Section 4.1. Annual Meeting
After "the Committee on Ministry" in the list of offices to be elected at the Annual Meeting: "the Finance

Committee.”

Add to Section 6.8. Nominating Committee

After “the Committee on Ministry” in the list of offices to be recruited and nominated by the Nominating Committee: “the Finance Committee,”.

2. The following slate of candidates:

President-Elect: Sarah Nicholson - 3-year term

Secretary: Jane Moffitt - 2-year term

Treasurer: Susan Coe - 2-year term

Members at Large: Michael Bowe (Spiritual Life); Eileen Wolper (Social Action); Sarah Johnson (Finances); Shannan Boyarak (Lifespan) - 2-year terms

Endowment Committee: Rick

Fitzsimmons (3-year term); Linda Buckmaster (2-year term)

Nominating Committee: Jen Kirchoff - 3-year term

Finance Committee: John Krueger (3-year term); Debbie Bailly (2-year term); Roger lee (1-year term)

3. The 2017-2018 Operating Budget

Details of the budget will be discussed at the Meeting.

Peace Advocacy Certificate

Unitarian Universalist Church of Belfast, Maine

May 2017

In February of 2017, a small rectangular package arrived at our office in the Belfast Center. It was the official certificate recognizing us as a Peace Advocacy congregation.

This small package is the culmination of four years of effort, dating back to the congregational vote in the winter of 2013 to pursue becoming a peace Advocacy congregation. At that time, a committee was formed consisting of Marty Daniels, Deane Perkins, Kathy Kreamer, and Neva Allen to identify and collect evidence of peace activities in our congregation.

Beginning in September of 2013, the committee began gathering

documentation of peace-themed activities and sorting them into four categories: International Peace; Personal Domestic, and Congregational Peace; Peace Lobbying and Activism; and Military Personnel Support.

Some of the activities we documented, such as our work with the Greater Bay Area Food Cupboard, has been going on for years. Other activities were prompted in part by the certification process. These would include Deane’s class on Non-Violent Communication, our Peace Meals, and a number of peace-themed worship services.

Other activities, such as the Peace Festivals of 2014 and 2015 and the May 2016 workshop “The Role of Faith Communities in Serving Veterans” were designed specifically to meet certification requirements.

This is, of course, the purpose of such initiatives: to nudge congregations to make more conscious and focused choices about our worship, adult programming, and community outreach.

The three-year period in which to gather documentation officially ended in September of 2016. The committee spent the fall working closely with Paul Eagle to put together the actual application, with all the publicity, photographs, news articles, and other attachments included as evidence of our efforts. Paul dedicated hours to the final document – thank you, Paul! – and in February we were recognized as an official Peace Advocacy congregation.

Our little committee is now officially done!

Marty Daniels, Chair

MUUSAN holds annual meeting

The Maine UU State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN) held its Spring Conference and Annual Meeting in Augusta on May 13, 2017. The featured speaker was Hon. Tom Andrews, former U.S.

Congressman from Maine and now the President and CEO of the Unitarian-Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). His address was troubling but inspiring. UUSC has 40 staff members working on projects in 27 countries around the world, most of them in extremely

dire circumstances.

With a limited budget of only \$8 million, UUSC’s philosophy is to work with local organizations, with the locals taking the lead in identifying needs. But UUSC also works at a macro level with other non-governmental organizations

(NGOs) to leverage their influence. Andrews related he personally went to a remote corner of Burma to interview Rohingya refugees as they fled into neighboring Bangladesh. For decades, the Burmese government and ethnic Rakhine Buddhists have committed the worst imaginable atrocities and human rights abuses against the Rohingya, who are Moslems. Andrews and leaders of three other NGOs testified about the plight of the Rohingya in the U.S. Congress, and in 2014 the House passed a Resolution calling on the government of Burma to end the persecution of the Rohingya. UUSC was also instrumental in moving the United Nations to get involved. In the afternoon, the three Issue Groups (Democracy in Action, Health Care for All, and Climate

June Sunday Services

All services start at 10:00 AM at the East Belfast School. Please call 338-4482 for more information. Children, infants and new faces are always welcome. Please join us!

JUNE 4 Reverend Deane Perkins - please plan on staying for the ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING after the service

JUNE 11 Multi Church Service with UU churches from Belfast, Ellsworth and Castine at East Belfast School. Our ministers and Karen Bellavance-Grace, of the UUA's New England Regional staff, will lead us in worship during our second-annual collaborative service, hosted this year by our church. In her sermon, "*Greetings from the Intersection of Hope and History*," Karen will address some spiritual aspects of collaboration. Join us for a celebration of the relationships growing among our congregations and all of the potential they bring. (Children will begin worship with the adults and then move into a special RE program.)

Hospitality afterward will be light (but delicious). Please bring a picnic lunch or grab one at the co-op, and we'll keep our conversations flowing.

JUNE 18 Reverend Deane Perkins - This will be our last regular service before summer and last day of RE for the kids

JUNE 25 Gemma Scott (topic TBA)

WHO'S WHO AND WHO TO CALL

Minister

Rev. Deane Perkins 338-4482
minister@uubelfast.org
[On sabbatical until mid-April 2017]

Administrative Assistant

Maret Knight 338-4482
Email: office@uubelfast.org
office hrs: Mon. & Thurs. 9:00-1:00
[To change address and contact information or manage subscriptions to UUBB, UU News, UU Caring Circle.]

Ministerial Intern

Lane Fisher lanefisher@gwi.net 338-1008
[Pastoral care]

Church Council

President, Marty Daniels
mertsquirt@twc.com
Vice President, Karen Wigglesworth
kwi88les@gmail.com
Capital Campaign, Chris LeGore
egore@maine.edu, 589-4421
and Roger Lee, grogerlee@gmail.com
522-8007

Religious Exploration RE & YRUU

Danielle Bannister 505-5383
dre@uubelfast.org

LifeSpan Advisory

Jane Dopheide
janedopheide4@gmail.com

Music

Steve Weston saweston17@gmail.com
992-7472

Finances/Treasurer

Susan Coe susan.coe.13@gmail.com
691-5153

Sunday Services

Mandi Thomas
mandirhubbard@yahoo.com

Membership

Teresa Piper teresapipe@gmail.com
Karen Wigglesworth
kwi88les@gmail.com

Fundraising

Kathy Muzzy 338-9672

Congregational Life

Cheryl Richardson
a_crinitaly@yahoo.com

Green Sanctuary

Joe Watts jwatts226@gmail.com

Caring Circle

Patty Smith fiddleheadisland@gmail.com

Safe Congregation

Tara Kennedy tekennedy@fairpoint.com

LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation

Patty Heath hthptty@gmail.com

Sound Coordinator

Cary Bradford hapcary@gmail.com

Hospitality

Nominating Committee

Anna Wood-Cox
awood@drinkwaterschool.org

Endowment Committee

Rick Davis rdavis5468@roadrunner.com

Greeter Coordinator

Cheryl Richardson
a_crinitaly@yahoo.com

Communications

Website Content

content@uubelfast.org

Newsletter

Douglas M. Coffin
douglas.coffin@lettercutter.com

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

Change) met to work on ways to express our UU faith and principles to promote a more just society in these areas. MUUSAN educates and informs Maine UUs about upcoming events and opportunities for individual and congregational action.

To learn more about MUUSAN, contact Rick or Corliss Davis, Lane Fisher, or David Smith.

Church Pledgers

Thank you to all of our church pledgers! As our church year ends June 30, please be sure to write on your checks if they go to your 2016/2017 pledge or our new church year of 2017/2018.

Thanks, Maret
the administrative assistant

UU Women's Group Upcoming Events!

JUNE – LABYRINTH WALK/ MEDITATION – We will celebrate the solstice on Wednesday, June 21st. Judith Simpson, M.P.A., veteran Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction teacher, will lead us in a meditative walk at the Labyrinth at Belfast Common at 8:00 AM. Of the many forms of meditation used by religious and secular folks alike, the labyrinth is one of the oldest. We are so fortunate to have this resource available to us right here in Belfast. We will speak of history, and also of the many possibilities to be gained from walking this labyrinth so close to home! Do you know any labyrinth history? Bring what you know or a poem or reading to share quietly. Gather with your own coffee, tea and/or a snack. Contact: Kathy Kreamer, kreamers@twc.com

*Worship and Fellowship Celebrating the
Collaboration among the Unitarian Universalist
Congregations of Belfast, Castine, & Ellsworth*

Gather the Spirit!

Sunday, June 11, 2017

UU Church of Belfast

37 Miller St.

10:00 AM

Guest Speaker, Karen Bellavance-Grace
Regional New England Staff of the UUA

Pick-up Choir Rehearses at 9 AM ♦ Special RE & Child Care
Followed by a BYO Picnic by the Bay or Indoors

FMI: contact Lane Fisher or Rev. Deane, Margaret, or Sara

JULY – GARDEN CLUB TOUR, APPLETON, Friday, July 21. At 10:00 AM we'll visit the Open Garden sponsored by the Belfast Garden Club in Appleton. We will meet to carpool and find lunch after the tour at a local place. Contact: Jacqui Lee for details and information: 338-3075.

AUGUST – Rail Trail Walk, date TBD. Contact: Karen Wigglesworth kwi88les@gmail.com, 218-1342.

SEPTEMBER - Frances Perkins, US Secretary of Labor under FDR, executed many aspects of The New Deal, established unemployment benefits, pensions and welfare for the poorest Americans. She was the first woman appointed to the US Cabinet. We may choose to read a book about her, visit her homestead, The Frances Perkins Center, in Damariscotta. More details being developed. Contact Kathy Kreamer,

kreamers@twc.com with ideas/suggestions/questions.

FALL - Back in our own space on Miller Street. Date TBD - visit the Botanical Gardens in Boothbay, TED talk with discussion. We need a volunteer to lead a craft or activity workshop. More ideas welcome.

From: Members of the Space Needs Team & the Presidents

Dear UUCB Members and Friends: It's hard to believe it, but we're getting closer and closer to reoccupying our building!

As Sarah Nicholson reminded us in the May UUCB newsletter "... five years of labor and meetings and planning and starting over and lots and lots of love and trust. And here we are with the end in sight, Helping Hands School moving in . . . and A LOT to accomplish between now and then."

We've come so far and so much is happening so fast, we thought that it would be a good idea to let you know exactly where we stand now and what to look forward to in the coming months.

We will move into a totally rebuilt, clean-but-minimal, unfinished space. The building will be totally functional, with a certificate of occupancy (meaning that all systems are "up and running" – elevator, sprinkler system, electricity, plumbing, heat, safety fire doors, alarms, and fire exits). Finish painting downstairs will be complete and the kitchen and bathrooms installed. However, as originally planned, there will be no flooring in the sanctuary or carpet downstairs.

Volunteer Help Needed

May 27 & 28: Drywall and sill sanding help needed, 1:00-5:00 both days. It's important that this work be completed before the June 3rd cleaning day. Roger Lee needs one or two people to work in the sanctuary on this Saturday and Sunday.

Drywall: Repair plaster walls to meet the standards for the Certificate of Occupancy and apply skim coat. Some experience necessary.

Window Casings: sand and clean window casings (mostly horizontal surfaces) to prep for painting before June 11. No experience needed. Contact Roger (calls/text) at 522-8007

June 3rd: "All hands on deck/-community building" Cleaning Day, 9:00-3:00. Sign up for morning, afternoon, or all day.

We need 15-20 people, willing to get dirty, to clean the entire building, upstairs and down. We are hoping to borrow an array of shop-vacs, brooms, dust pans, mops and garbage bags. Cleaning protocol details and masks will be provided.

Contact Jan Anderson at 505-5710 or jdanders5@gmail.com to sign up or offer your equipment.

June 6 First Moving Day – 9:00-1:00 To provide essentials for the June 11 service (chairs, pulpit, hymnals, etc.). Although the Waldo County Re-entry Center Crew is scheduled, we need two truck drivers for two two-hour shifts). Contact Marty Daniels at 218-1275, 930-9405 or mertsquirt@twc.com to sign up.

June 11 The Collaborative Ministry Service at East Belfast School.

We will welcome UU members from Ellsworth and Castine churches. More information coming from the Collaborative Ministry team. Please plan to join us for this very special service.

June 27 The "Mother of all moves." Another "All hands-on-deck" event. Our official re-occupancy of the building.

We will need you to:

- Drive two 20-foot box trucks in two-hour shifts,
- Carry and unpack boxes,
- Move furniture,
- Set up the kitchen, office & RE (Teams will be assigned by the leaders of each.),
- Load and unload trucks, and anything else we can think of!

Contact Marty Daniels (218-1275 or mertsquirt@twc.com) or Linda Buckmaster (338-1701 or lsuck1@gmail.com) to sign up.

Early Summer and Ongoing.

Volunteers needed for:

Attic Work: cleaning the attic and installing clips. A necessary step before insulation can be blown in. Two or three "nimble" attic cleaners needed to climb up with shop-vacs to clean between joists and install ceiling clips.

- Floor cleaning/painting, upstairs and down (temporary to cover raw plywood surfaces).
- Sanctuary wall, window, and ceiling painting, re-glazing and patching

Contact Roger (calls/text) at 522-8007 to sign up for any of these.

Early Fall & Beyond The entire UUCB community will have accomplished an amazing feat! The past year (five years!) has been

challenging, with new surprises at every turn! This fall, we hope to stop, take a breath, celebrate our successes, regroup and look to the future.

Building Dedication – The official spiritual launch for our renovated and rejuvenated old building, and a real tribute to what a unified vision can accomplish. Date and details TBD.

Community Open House – Saturday, September 30

Community Regroup – According

to our original plan, there will still be more finishing work to be done. Your input will be very important in setting priorities, making decisions, and creating a new plan forward.

The church and the entire renovation belongs to all of us. We are incredibly grateful for the generous gifts of your time, talents and treasure. We could not have gotten this far without each of you.

We are excited, and grateful that several interested members have

stepped forward to offer additional support for specific needs. This fall will be a time for all of us to put our heads together to create our next steps.

With love and gratitude,

Members of the Space Needs team and Presidents:

Roger Lee, Sarah Nicholson, Jane Dopheide, Marty Daniels, Debbie Bailly, Wendy Watkins, Deane Perkins, Susan Coe, Karen Wigglesworth and Chris LeGore.

37 Miller Street, Our Common Vision, Our Collective Efforts

Can you believe it? We will be moving back into 37 Miller Street soon. We are indebted to the wonderful services that our stalwart members have provided so far! Major volunteer accomplishments include:

Vacating the building/moving into the Belfast Center We are grateful to the men from the Re-entry Center for their hard work. They moved our kitchen components into storage last June, and back into the building this May. They carried everything from our upright piano to countless boxes, and unloaded furniture and boxes to storage and our temporary offices at the Belfast Center.

The flooring event – With no notice, about twenty-five people gave up their holiday weekend to rip up flooring, pound nails, carry boards and get generally filthy to ensure that the wood floors in the church could possibly be saved for use in the sanctuary.

Back Entry – Jay LeGore is sin-

gle-handedly building our new stoop and stairs for the back entry. He even took time to fix a hole in the roof of one of our storage units!

Ceiling Clips - Remember all those ceiling clips that needed to be installed to stabilize the sanctuary ceiling? Thanks to Roger, Morton, Chip and Jay for their work on this project so far!

Painting - Jan Anderson and Eileen Wolper have done a sensational job getting the first floor painted and ready for the dropped ceilings and floors. Thanks also to Marty, Corliss, Chris LeGore, Roger, who helped out with specific painting tasks.

Moving kitchen cabinets - May 14 an emergency plea went out to church-goers that we needed kitchen cabinets moved at the church. About fifteen people showed up to help. Many hands make like work. Thanks to all!

Kitchen Assembly - Scott King is working to reassemble the kitchen. Come check it out!

We also want to particularly thank Roger Lee and Jan Anderson for their ongoing and tireless efforts.

Their handiwork is everywhere, and way too extensive to itemize. Scores of other UUCB workers have moved in and out of the work-site, each helping out in any number of ways.

Your Contribution - The church belongs to all of us. Thanks to each one of you for your time, talents and treasure. We couldn't have done it without you!

UUCB Clothing Sale Gratitude!

On a rainy first weekend in May, a team of dedicated members and friends turned the Fellowship Hall of the First Church of Belfast into a apparel emporium, fit to please the most discerning shopper and netting UUCB \$1407.31 in sales.

Many hands made light work, and it was especially fun to work alongside some of the newer members of our congregation and get to know them better.

Thank you to all who donated clothing and big thanks to Marty Daniels, Chris LeGore, Michael Bowe, Corliss Davis, Nancy

Crooker, Betty Sue Easton, Jacqui Lee, Cris Hughes, Betsy Reed, Brett Johnson, Linda Bowe, Kathy Muzzy, Marje Stickler, Francine Brown, Debbie Bailly, Danielle Bannister, and Susan Coe & Linda Buckmaster for publicity. Apologies to any volunteers whose name I've overlooked. Special

thanks to Jane Dopheide for her hands-on help and for sharing her expertise!

In the final hours of the sale, we were delighted when a member of First Church invited us to contribute the remaining items to NuDay Syria, an organization which sends humanitarian aid to

Syria, with a focus on the needs of women and children.

We made connections, worked hard and had fun, and every stitch of clothing donated was put to good use, locally and across the globe. Thank you!

With gratitude,
Karen Wigglesworth

A Growing Year: The Collaborative Ministry Internship

By Lane Fisher

How can I thank you adequately for this beautiful, complicated, rich, intense, roundly wonderful, and grace-filled year of experiential learning? It's not possible. Because what I take away from it is braided with my respect to the congregations I've come to know. Let me reflect back some of the many ways in which that's true.

But first let's applaud the collaboration among us. It's nascent but already paying lovely dividends. A short list: the three-church retreat to Ferry Beach in late October was a wonderful confluence of energies. Our films at the Alamo in Bucksport have been great-spirited gatherings that amplified our call to justice. On June 11, at our second annual collaborative worship service in Belfast will pulse with loving celebration. Karen Bellavance-Grace, of the UUA's New England Regional staff, will speak about spiritual aspects of collaboration in a sermon titled "Greetings from the Intersection of Hope and History." We really are making history in our denomination and we can be proud.

I'm proud, too, of those who wondered aloud this year how the other

two congregations handle different parts of church life. We are already leaning into the idea that we are ready resources for one another. Days ago, an Ellsworth board member told me how energizing and refreshing it feels to learn how our sister churches operate. The fact that we have agreed to work together creates a greater sense of permission, she said, to ask what others do and borrow from their experience. Whoever your intern is in a given year, that person will be a worker bee in the cross-pollination that's underway.

In the humming congregation of Ellsworth, I've seen so much to bless. Because Rev. Sara Hayman was my supervisor, UUCE was bound to be my primary congregation this year, and they were 100 percent ready to fill their teaching role with love and generosity. I've watched this congregation finish building a powerful fundraising program (from which Belfast already has taken some cues), make their next step in raising staff salaries toward recommended levels, and embrace a new mission statement: "Celebrating the sacred, we gather in loving community to nourish souls and live justice into the world." I feel so indebted to UUCE's members and to Sara's

highly intentional ministerial model that I was dumbfounded and speechless in the face of their expressed gratitude to me. This internship seems to have been the epitome of a win-win proposition, but it may also have been a spoiler: will I ever again serve another such a roundly loving congregation?

The Castine congregation has settled beautifully with their new minister, Margaret Beckman, and observing that process has been an enormous set of teachings to me. I've also gained more than I can yet know from Margaret's riffs on ministry during our Tuesdays in the Main St. office.

There is so much that I appreciate about this kind and welcoming, family-size church, but I most respect their commitment to justice—not just their Pulliam grants and the call to justice in their mission statement, but their support to Philippine school children, their roles in delivering meals to families in need, their Kiva micro-loans, how openly they listen to challenges from the pulpit, and more.

When Castine's endowment performed excellently last year, they could have rolled the windfall back into their church but instead are in a congregation-wide process to decide how to disperse \$100,000 as

one-time gifts serving justice.

Belfast, which has seen the least of me this year despite supporting the internship financially, is about to get me back (more on that below). While I've been off learning to love our very different sister churches, my own congregation has climbed a logistical and financial mountain—the complete renovation of our church.

Thanks to their ability to adapt creatively, this congregation dealt smoothly with being out of their building for a year and with Rev. Deane Perkins's winter sabbatical. Now they're gathering energies to move back into the church and to host our June 11 collaborative worship service, with two painting dervishes working magic right behind the contractors. Next year I

hope we will learn together to slow down a bit and invite Spirit more deeply into our church life—while ministerial intern Amy Fiorilli learns to love UUCB!

Most in Ellsworth and Castine know that the UUA's "best practices" call for me to break contact in my internship churches for a calendar year after June 15, when I'll finish.

I've explained some reasons for this in my last (for now) UUCE service and will do so in Castine on June 4. During that year, it might seem during that time that I've forgotten you, but it's not possible! You've taken residence in my heart, and so we will always be connected.

Belfast is more complicated. I spoke with the UUA's director of

ministerial credentialing in early May, and he was comfortable with my returning to my home congregation but not with my taking any roles of ministerial leadership. They want Amy to have the fullest opportunity to step into leadership there, alongside Deane.

Ours is a fertile, history-making collaboration that is only beginning to discover its potential. Nevertheless, your impact on my ministry will always be palpable. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. May you ever bloom and grow as sister and teaching congregations!

Please come worship in Belfast on June 11—at 10:00 AM—to celebrate all of this. I look forward to seeing my people under one roof!

With blessings and love, always,
Lane