

**VOL. 23, No. 8**  
**SEPTEMBER • 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**  
**Coming Home!**

By Karen Wigglesworth

The days leading up to August 6, the date of our planned first Sunday service in our newly renovated sanctuary, were filled with the question of will we?/won't we? as we waited to hear if everything was in place for our return. When it was learned late Friday afternoon that our ele-



*The first service in our new space!*

vator was successfully inspected and certified and all things were good to go, a hard-working team of volunteers sprang into action.

Energetic workers swept, scrubbed, mopped, vacuumed and dusted, shifted hundreds of pounds of scaffolding, lumber and chairs, and over the course of a very busy Saturday, transformed the sanctuary from a construction zone into a place of worship.

The following morning, we opened our doors to congregants, friends, and visitors and another sort of homecoming- that of our YRUU service trip members, recently returned from Guatemala. Over the course of the hour, we listened as YRUU youth from the congregations of Belfast, Ellsworth, Rockland, Augusta and Bangor spoke candidly and movingly of all they had learned and experienced in their work with

Safe Passage: the natural beauty of the country, the unimaginable poverty, and the innocent and loving spirits of the children they met. The service concluded with Max Howard on the ukelele leading the congregation in singing John Lennon's "Imagine."

It was a joy to be back under our own roof and seemed fitting that we

welcomed home our traveling youth on the same Sunday that our own congregation came home from our year of wandering. Many thanks to all who worked so tirelessly to ready the church for our return and made the August 6 service possible!

Our inaugural service was just the first of several events in which we will celebrate and mark the occasion of our homecoming:

On September 10, we will celebrate our annual end-of-summer ingathering with our traditional Water Communion.

September 30 from 2 - 4 PM we will host a community Open House.

As we reoccupy our building and begin to fill it up again with the life of the congregation, we want to take time to envision together what will come next. There will be congregational conversations where we will be invited to consider such questions

**From the office**

The move is done and we are back in the church! While I am enjoying my brand new administrative office with a view of the yard, I am also working on how to manage our brand new building on top of my usual tasks. There are LOTS of details to be worked out, so please be aware that it will take a while before the office is back up to speed. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

### Winter is Coming!

(Winter Solstice, that is!)

The Winter Solstice is a time of magic and wonder, with traditions old and new. Our church has organized a Winter Solstice Celebration each year for the past 20 years! For many in our community, it is a highlight of the holiday season. We (Wendy and Linda), have had the privilege of being the most recent organizers. Sadly, both of us need to pass this opportunity on to others this year. We will share detailed to-do lists and contact info for past participants and helpers. Help keep this wonderful tradition alive (quite possibly in our new sanctuary this year!)

Please contact Michael Bowe or Karen Wigglesworth if you are interested.  
Wendy Krueger and Linda Bowe

### October 15 will be our Building Dedication.

Already, our new building is beginning to hum with activity.

Groups are meeting, the staff offices are up and running, the choir is practicing.

We have even held our first fundraising event, a very successful yard sale under the

bringing the renovation of our church to completion? What are our hopes and dreams for our future? And most importantly, now that we have brought our vision to life, how will we use it to live out our faith, in our community and in the world? Now is the time, when our eyes are still filled with the “newness” of our beautiful new space, to let ourselves imagine and dream a little.

Blessed be and welcome home!  
Karen Wigglesworth  
President

### Upcoming Events at UUCB:

EARLY FALL 2017

Please join us in the following events!

**September 10th:** Water Service welcoming all back from summer.

**September 30th:** Open House at the church. This is an opportunity for community members to tour the building.

**OCTOBER 15TH: BUILDING DEDICATION.**

**October 27th-29th:** 2nd Annual Collaborative Ministries Three-Church Retreat at Ferry Beach! Good food, good company, and good conversation!

as: what will our priorities be in bringing the renovation of our church to completion? What are our hopes and dreams for our future? And most importantly, now that we have brought our vision to life, how will we use it to live out our faith, in our community and in the world? Now is the time, when our eyes are still filled with the “newness” of our beautiful new space, to let ourselves imagine and dream a little.

Blessed be and welcome home!  
*Karen Wigglesworth, President*

expert guidance of Judith Grace and Jane Dopheide. Construction of the children’s playground is progressing well in the side yard, and Helping Hands Family School will soon be moving into our RE rooms.

As we reoccupy our building and begin to fill it up again with the life of the congregation, we want to take time to envision together what will come next. There will be congregational conversations where we will be invited to consider such questions as: what will our priorities be in

### Do you like to drink coffee and eat after the service?

If you do, then you are like just about every other member of our congregation! What could be better than some hot coffee and a bite or two to munch on as you socialize with fellow congregants?

As you all know, Dan Avenor and Susan Coe did the duties this past year while we were at the East Belfast School (thank you Dan and

Susan!) And in years past Arthur Richardson and Chris LeGore (among others) have run Hospitality. Typically that has meant putting out a weekly call for volunteers, and feeling compelled to be at church most Sundays to make sure everything goes well.

Well what if someone didn’t have to run it?

What if each month had a team assigned to Hospitality for just that

month? Imagine – four Sundays out the year, and then you would be done!

This is a model that has been used successfully in many other congregations. And I would like to have us try it here.

What are the benefits of such a model?

First, no one gets stuck doing Hospitality week after week.

Secondly, this is a great way to

draw people in. Maybe they are relatively new to the congregation. Here's a way they can participate and get to know a few people better! Maybe they only come occasionally. Here's a reason for them to come one Sunday! Maybe they are thinking of getting more involved, but don't know where to start. Here's a toe in the door!

Thirdly, people new to the task tend to bring new energy and enthusiasm. Maybe someone of the team has some ideas about how to make Hospitality time better. Maybe someone has some recipes they want to share.

Best of all, since it's just one month, no one has to worry about being tagged as the "Hospitality person" forever if they do a great job!

So here's my plan. I have divided the congregation into 10 "teams" (no July or August), assigned each team a month, and will soon be calling for

**September Sunday Services**

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

**SEPT 3**

**Hymn Parade Sunday**

We are blessed with musicians, singers, music, and dynamite acoustics in our new sanctuary! Come lift your spirits with song! Please email Mandi Thomas by 8/29 if you have a particular hymn you would like to sing that Sunday.

**SEPT 10**

**Ingathering service**

Come back home, you summer wanderers, and join us for a multi-generational service! Don't forget to bring a container with water from your summer adventures to share in our annual Water Communion. Our choir will be back in action, under the direction of Steve Weston.

**SEPT 17**

**Rev Deane Perkins**

**SEPT 24**

**Welcome Amy Fiorilli**

Our collaborative ministry intern for the next year! Amy just finished her second year as a seminarian at Meadville-Lombard Theological School, and is in Candidate status with the UUA. She has been a member of the UU Church of Ellsworth since 2014. Worship Arts is very excited to both support Amy, and to collaborate with her as well. Amy will split her time between our congregation and our sister church in Castine. Our congregation will play a key part in her ministerial development, and we hope you will join us in welcoming her warmly and openly.

**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.]

**Church Council**

President, Karen Wigglesworth  
kwi88les@gmail.com  
Vice President, Sarah Nicholson  
snicholson@woodardcurran.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

monthly coordinators. Each coordinator will coordinate Hospitality for their designated month.

So what needs to happen on Sunday morning for Hospitality?

First, someone needs to make coffee and tea. We are going to continue to use the smaller, more user-friendly coffee pots that we used at the school, until or unless they prove too small.

So that job will be easier than when we use the big coffee makers. There will be clear instructions how to use all the appliances.

Secondly, people like something to nibble. However, as this past year proved, there doesn't have to be a lot, or indeed, any food at all. This will be up to each team – if there are people who like to bring in food items, great! If not, that's okay too! The only guidelines here are to be mindful of people's food needs. It's always nice to offer one or two gluten-free options.

Thirdly, things need to be cleaned up. This means rinsing dishes and loading and running the dishwasher, sweeping the floor, and picking up. Again, there will be clear instructions how to use the dishwasher.

Generally speaking, two to three people can pull off Hospitality. With 14 people on a team, and knowing that it is just for one month (meaning possibly just once for each person for the whole year!), volunteers should be easy to come by.

If this model doesn't work for us, we can reevaluate for next year. But I'd like to see us try something different for this year. So here's to Hospitality!

If you think you might like to be a coordinator for one month, please contact Marty Daniels at 218-1275 or mertsquirt@twc.com.

## RE NEWS

**It's that time of year again! Registration packets should have been mailed to you by now, but if you need one, please email Danielle at [dre@uubelfast.org](mailto:dre@uubelfast.org) or grab one from her on Sunday. These forms are vital for the DRE to know where to place your child on Sunday morning and to make sure all their medical and food needs are met. It only takes a few minutes to fill out! Please return those promptly.**

### UPCOMING DATES

SEPT. 10 Will be our in-gathering service. After the kids are sung out to RE, we will go down the back stairs. This will be the exit we will be used during the year. For this first meeting, all the children will join in the meeting room. From there they will be given a tour of our brand new space; we'll go over some rules answer questions, have some snack and share our joys and sorrows.

SEPT. 17 First class separated RE. This will be the first time they have a full session of RE

SEPT. 24 This is the weekend of The Common Ground Fair and a Sunday we typically have low attendance. Accordingly, we make this a game/craft day in RE

Can't wait to see you all again! I'm excited to be home again!

### **“New to UU” Class begins October 1!**

Are you interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism, its history, beliefs and principles, and exploring your own spiritual journey? If so, this class is for you!

This four-session program begins with an introduction by Reverend Deane Perkins on Sunday, October 1, with remaining sessions meeting 10/8, 10/15 and 10/22.

All classes will meet from 1:00-3:00 PM at the church and childcare is available.

Whether you are interested in taking this class as your first step on the path toward becoming a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Belfast, or simply to deepen your understanding of our UU faith, join us for this fun, enlightening class.

All are welcome!

For more information, please contact Teresa Piper ([teresapipe@gmail.com](mailto:teresapipe@gmail.com)).

### **UU B&B**

Have you been wondering if there is an easy way to make a big contribution to the church that also expands your spiritual connections in the world? Today is your lucky day, because there is! The UU B&B (UU Bed and Breakfast) program is in need of host homes. If you have a spare bedroom and a willingness to share that space with visitors to the area, this is your gig. Potential guests learn about you through the national UU B&B registry. You decide how much to charge and how much to donate to UUCB, what is included (breakfast, kitchen privileges, bicycles, private bath, pets, etc), when your space is available, how involved to be with your guests, etc. Prior and current hosts rave about the interesting people they have met and the new friends they have made. If this is appealing to you, please contact Muzz ([kmuzzy@bluestreakme.com](mailto:kmuzzy@bluestreakme.com))

## **A new vision for Program Council! Come join us!!**

With a new year beginning in our new building, why not try other things new? Your church council is leading us off on a year of experiential learning, trying out new ways of doing things to see what can work better, recognizing that we can learn as much from things that don't work as from things that do.

With that perspective, there is nothing to be lost from trying things, and everything to be gained. So, come join us on the adventure!

As many of you know, our Program Council has been a quarterly meeting of Committee chairs to encourage coordination, scheduling, and interconnection between and among our committees. This year, we'd like to try a different format and to invite anyone and everyone who is (or is considering) serving on a committee. The idea is to provide an opportunity to explore our congregational leadership as a spiritual practice, and to develop deeper connections between ourselves.

The new format will be an evening meeting at the church, to be held on Mondays, where we will begin with a simple shared supper, then spend some time in small group conversation considering a deepening question, and then come back together to discuss how our committees are, and could be, working together towards a larger vision of our congregation's mission. The intent is to be both visionary AND practical/logistical. Our first meeting will be September 25 with supper beginning at 5:30. Won't you join us? (future meetings will be November 20, January 29, March 26 and May TBD) FMI contact Sarah Nicholson [snicholson@woodardcurran.com](mailto:snicholson@woodardcurran.com)

Sarah Nicholson, P.E.

207-632-5039 (cell)  
207-558-4236 (direct)

## **CongoLife**

While CongoLife "adjusts" to the new space at 37 Miller, CongoLife hopes to host a Welcome Home Potluck event in September in our fabulous new space.

Think about what favorite potluck creation you might want to contribute!!

Stay tuned for more Fall Events!  
Your CongoLife Committee  
Cheryl Richardson  
207.342.4649 Home  
207.213.7334 Cell

## **Space Needs status update**

Over the next six weeks or so, there will be a number of events to celebrate and ground us in our return to our building. We and our fabulous contractor will also be finishing up a number of things to get us to a point of completion of the project as it was approved.

Once we are celebrated and resettled, we can turn our attention to the deeper connecting made possible for our church year back at home. At some point soon after the building dedication on October 15, the Space Team will present an update on where we are with the project, including finances and planned improvements.

With the project you charged us with essentially completed, it is now up to the congregation to engage with figuring out how and when to finish up the overall project. We will schedule a meeting (or two) to present where we are, and to help identify options for proceeding, setting priorities etc. Please watch for future announcements in October.

## **An initial "Hello!"**

from your new Collaborative Intern,  
*Amy R. Fiorilli:*

HI EVERYONE,

I wanted to just take a moment to offer an introduction. I cannot wait to get to know you as people and as congregations throughout the coming year. I have no doubt that it will be a time of growth, a time of deepening, a time of learning and sharing together this incredible journey that is life and ministry. First and foremost, I must say thank you. I will say those two words many times over the course of our 9 months together. I know this because gratitude overflows within me. It is no small task to become and be committed to the identity of teaching congregations. It requires great offerings of time and talent, support and money. It is a gift you give to me, to yourselves (I hope) and to the larger purpose of Unitarian Universalism. You all will be playing a role in my formation as a minister of this faith that we love. You are a part of the fabric weaving together who I am becoming and what I will give to this world. You all will forever be a part of me, and I will do my very best to make you proud. I will listen deeply to your wisdom, to your concerns, to your joys and strengths. I hope you will do the same for me. I hope we will forgive each other quickly and laugh heartily at the stumbles we make along the way.

I was born and raised in Mid Coast Maine. I love my state. I now live with my husband Brian, my almost 7-year-old daughter Lilliana, and our dachshund Jasper, in Otis, 20 minutes outside of Ellsworth. We have a 3-stall barn and a lovely pasture and someday when things quiet down a little we look forward to a donkey, and a pony or two. I have worked as

a licensed clinical social worker for the past 15 years. I love that work and I realized a while ago that it wasn't enough. I have always been a seeker of truth, a lover of depth and a person committed to radical honesty and authentic self-discovery. I believe that we change the world, by being willing to listen and learn. We become capable of lasting and meaningful acts of justice by being honest with ourselves, by knowing who we

are and what we are connected to as intimately as possible. I believe we need each other. Community makes us braver and believing in something, no matter what that is, heals brokenness and leads to profound loving action.

I look forward to learning what you believe in, what you are connected to. What brings you to Unitarian Universalism? How are you living your values in this world and how

can I help? How do we support one another? What makes you thrill with passion and purpose? What breaks your heart? What feeds your spirit?

And again, I am so grateful to begin this year with you all. I hope you will feel comfortable reaching out with questions or concerns or just to chat and get to know each other better.

With Love, Amy  
amyfiorilli@gmail.com