

AN OFFICIAL WELCOMING CONGREGATION
ALL ARE WORTHY, ALL ARE WELCOME.

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Website: www.auburnuu.org

*Rooted in the Sacred and strengthened by our diversity,
we equip ourselves to minister through the transformative power of Love.*

Adapted from
"The power of Community,"
preached by Jodi on August 21, 2016

...It matters that we have people who hold us in our joyful times and our hard ones; people who take our hands and hearts, who give us hugs and casseroles and space to be. I'm thinking of how, when we are held and loved in our full humanity, even the roughest, sharpest, worst parts of ourselves, that holding, somewhat paradoxically, allows us to grow toward the best of ourselves.

How, when there is room for our fear, we often find we have more courage than we imagined.

When there is room to be angry, we often find our way to clarity.

When there is room to be broken, we often grow scar tissue that makes us even stronger.

When there is room to make mistakes, we often find the courage to own them and apologize and make them right...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After a summer respite, the Auburn UU board of directors will reconvene for the 2016-2017 church year on Monday, September 12, at 6:30 in the church office. The current board is comprised of Kerry Lathrop, Bill Phillips, Paula Spruill, Tom Wylie, Ginny Starbird (clerk), Peter Floyd (vice president), and Eben Miller (president). Our first board meeting of the year will serve to welcome Tom onto the board and plan for the upcoming fall meeting on October 9, among other ends.

We are looking forward to a year of engagement with the coming opportunities to reaffirm our mission and vision, enhance volunteerism, and commit to growing our welcoming congregation.

– Eben Miller

SUNDAY, SEPT 11

Join us for
the start of
our church
year!

INGATHERING/ WATER COMMUNION

Bring a small vial of water to this multigenerational service to represent your travels: geographic, spiritual, or both. We share this water to symbolize the strength and power of community.

OPPORTUNITY FAIR

Hosted by the Council of Committees in the vestry following the service. Meet committee members and find a place to engage in our vibrant church community.

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT UU “DOINGS”

Like many congregations in our tri-state district of Maine-NH-VT, our NNED Board and New England Regional staff experience a low-key summer schedule. But in the background we’re meeting and planning.

Your NNED Board, of which I am a member, is comprised of 9 people, three each from Maine, NH, and Vt. We have a central meeting locale of Concord, NH, but sometimes meet elsewhere, and also use online conferencing technology. Despite traveling distances, I prefer the in-person gatherings. We have a *stellar* NNED Board...I am SO impressed (also read “intimidated”) by the dedication and knowledge that this group of ministers and lay leaders brings together each month.

Here’s a sampling of what’s going on in our fall focus:

- *Our Whole Lives* – facilitator trainings for varied age groups on sexual health and behavior (regional staff)
- Weekend retreat on *Speaking Truth, Living Truth: Transformative Ministry in the 21st Century* (regional staff)
- NNED Mission Statement crafting (the Board)
- Weekend **New England Regional Assembly** – a *mini UU General Assembly!* – April 7th, 8th, 9th (regional staff and NNED Board) with workshops, keynote, worship, UUA presidential candidates forum, song, vendors, and congregational collaboration. Venue not finalized, but near the NH/Mass. border.

Your NNED Board is hiring an Administrative Assistant to provide office support for mail, phone and email inquiries, databases, and assistance with the Chalice Lighters grant program among other things.

For information about our New England Region and the NNED Board check this website for a calendar of events, about what’s happening in our UU New England region: <http://www.newenglanduua.org/> congregations

– Anne Kinney, NNED Board Member

This is September,
a time when the vivacious shades
of green retreat, paling as the approaching
arrows of color—crimson, gold, tangerine,
come twanging from October’s bow,
inserting themselves as forewarning
into the rapidly changing canvas.

This too is September,
a time of semi-sadness
a moving mixture of partings
and joyous shouts of homecoming,
a time to hold sacred as we gently wrap
the treasured memorabilia,
the irretrievable souvenirs.

Pearl Tibbetts Sawyer

COFFEE ANGEL

Lorelei Greenwood Jones is our newest Coffee Hour Organizer. Please contact her at firebornspirit@yahoo.com if you’d like to:



- get on a coffee team,
- form a new team with friends,
- or be a pinch-hitter for times when a team member gets sidelined.

DRUMMING CIRCLE: 3RD THURSDAY

+ BRING OR BORROW +



This month:
September 15 - 6:30-8:00

For more info, contact
Peter Floyd: floyd6of7@yahoo.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE CORNER



Some attendees of our "Trapped" panel talk

This summer Social Justice was busy! We:

- screened "Trapped" with Planned Parenthood NNE and held a panel talk on reproductive rights in Maine for 25+ participants
- supported the local "I Love My Blackness and Yours" racial justice rally
- helped three people take the "Hard Conversations" online course on Racism (thank you, Karen and donor Bob Bishop)
- promoted economic justice and local produce with Habiba, selling produce on Sundays through the Fall
- supplied chairs for the New Roots Cooperative Farm groundbreaking August. This collective is comprised of four NASAP graduates who now farm 30 acres of their own land in Lewiston.
- found the SJ Banner! (Pixie is giving it TLC.)

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Interested in attending a MUUSAN meeting on Saturday, September 10 from 10:00–noon at UU Augusta? Contact Toby Haber at news@auburnuu.org.

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SJ will be hosting a candidate forum sponsored by Maine Citizens for Clean Elections. Look for upcoming details!

SECOND COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Second Collection is taken on the first Sunday of each month.

Sept 4	Greater Androscoggin Humane Society
Oct 2	Minister's Discretionary Fund
Nov 6	New Beginnings
Dec 4	Immigrant Resource Center of Maine

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We hope our members and friends have enjoyed a wonderful summer. It will be so nice to see familiar faces and new faces, too, as the church year begins.

Fall New Member classes

Sept. 18 (Sun.): 11:20 am

Sept. 21 (Wed.): 5:30 pm

Sept. 25 (Sun.): 11:20 am

Membership Committee will be holding New Member classes with Reverend Jodi on Sunday, September 18 at 11:20 a.m.; Wednesday, September 21 at 5:30 p.m.; and Sunday, September 15 at 11:20 a.m. We have many dear friends who attend regularly but have not yet become members and we invite them to attend, along with interested newcomers. Attendance is not a commitment to join but is required if you do wish to sign the Membership Book. There are sign up sheets located on the table in the back of the sanctuary and on the Membership table in the vestry.

Please look for us at the Opportunity Fair on September 11 and see if joining our committee might be right for you. Esther Tucker, a member of our committee, will be welcoming folks at Coffee Hour that day, and can help you find the table for whichever committee might be of special interest to you. Blessings,

– Peggy Cox, Membership Chair

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Like networking? Represent Auburn UU at a Chamber event! **Chamber After Hours** is free and always the third Thursday of the



month from 5:30–7:30. **Chamber breakfast** dates are September 8, October 13, November 10, and December 8. Contact Toby at news@auburnuu.org to learn more.

CAKES WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY GROUP OPENS SEPTEMBER 20

Our Women's Spirituality Group, known as the "Cakes Group," opens its circle again this fall to all interested and curious women who wish to explore concepts and practices of the divine feminine from various spiritual traditions that were omitted from our religious upbringings.



during the middle ages in Europe; and we've observed solstices and sabbats that make up the Wheel of the Year in earth-based practices.

We've discovered that learning together about these lost goddesses and stories connects us to our past as women and helps move us into spiritual wholeness.

The first gathering is **Tuesday September 20 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.** in the church vestry.

As we start our fourth year together we'll decide as a group on our focus for 2016-17, set our schedule, and plan for shared facilitation and light refreshments.

In the past we have "journeyed around the world" learning about goddesses from ancient myths and cultures that predated Christianity. We've considered goddess "archetypes" and how they might inform and guide some of our own traits and tendencies; we've learned about the sobering and much forgotten times when tens of thousands of women were executed in "witch" burnings

If you'd like to attend the September 20 gathering please contact Pixie Frayer or Anne Kinney or sign up during the Opportunity Fair on September 11 during Coffee Hour. Participants may explore whether the group resonates with them until the end of the year. In December we ask *all* continuing participants to make a commitment to the group which will meet once a month and hold a celebratory summer gathering before regrouping the following fall.

Can you sell or renew ads for the UU Theater Playbill?

Please contact Toby at news@auburnuu.org

OPEN MIC: CELEBRATING 10 ½ YEARS

Join us on **Friday, September 9**, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in our vestry. Sing/play/recite or just LISTEN. We continue to attract new people as well as old friends (like Jon Phillips, below). Refreshments for sale to benefit the Organ Fund. Free; all ages!



PAGAN HOLIDAYS

Join Lorelei and other good folks of varying Pagan experience in the upcoming open gatherings here at Auburn UU. These rituals are open to all, and your level of participation is solely up to you.

Sunday, September 18 at 1:00

Open Mabon celebration

<https://www.facebook.com/events/282556472136421/>

Sunday, October 30 at 1:00

Open Samhain celebration

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1088660854521464/>

TREE OF LIFE WORKSHOP/RETREAT FOR WOMEN: OCTOBER 15

Registration is open now for the October 15 Women's Workshop: *Exploring Your Personal Tree of Life at Midlife and Beyond*.

The Saturday gathering is sponsored by the Cakes Group, our women's spirituality circle, and is slated from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the vestry at Auburn UU with a break midway for a bag lunch.

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" asked poet Mary Oliver.

As we age, women at mid-life and beyond discover that there can be new passions, new purpose, new avenues of exploration. In this experiential retreat/workshop, led by Rev. D'Vorah Kelley from Keene, NH, we'll create sacred space and explore what we each still want to do with our lives that feels important and fulfilling.

This is open to all women with advance registration requested. For those who register and

pay by October 1, the cost is \$40. After October 1 (and until October 13) the cost is \$45.

For a registration form email Anne Kinney at akinneyuu@twc.com or come to the church

vestry during our "Opportunity Fair" during Coffee Hour following the September 11th water communion service. Scholarships are available; please speak to Anne—all information will be kept confidential.

Rev. D'Vorah Kelley is an ordained Interfaith Minister and a longtime UU. A gifted facilitator of Women's Circles, she knows first-hand the power of the Circle to affect a woman's life. She looks forward to returning to First Universalist Church of Auburn to do her second fall workshop with us.

— Anne Kinney for the Cakes Group



SEPTEMBER EVENTS www.auburnuu.org/news-events/calendar/

Sun, Sept 4	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service / RE classes <i>Second Collection: Greater Androscoggin Humane Society</i>
Fri, Sept 9	7:30 p.m.	Open Mic / Poetry Slam
Sun, Sept 11	10:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Water Communion / Ingathering Opportunity Fair
Thurs, Sept 15	5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) meeting Drumming Circle
Sun, Sept 18	10:00 a.m. 11:20 a.m. 1:00 p.m.	Worship Service / RE classes New Member class (1 of 3) Open Mabon Celebration
Tues, Sept 20	6:30 p.m.	Cakes group meeting (vestry)
Wed, Sept 21	5:30 p.m.	New Member class (2 of 3)
Sat, Sept 24		Deadline for October newsletter submissions
Sun, Sept 25	10:00 a.m. 11:20 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Worship Service / RE classes New Member class (3 of 3) Song Circle - Discoverers' Room

SEW WHAT?

Can you help us finish a sewing project? Mary Morin has cut



and pinned material to make curtains for the vestry and the Discoverers classroom. After these are sewn, we already have the hardware to attach them to the rods. Please contact Karen at 783-0461 to volunteer!

The deadline for the October Open Door newsletter is

SAT, SEPT 24, 2016

Please send submissions to Tracey Miller at newsletter@auburnuu.org.