

February  
2020

# The Point

## Committee Members, Officers and Trustees

### Archives

### Bookkeeper

Katrina Goodrich

### Board of Trustees and Officers

#### Officers

Pres. Dennis Perkins 2021  
VP: Rurik Spence 2021  
Treasurer: Allane Ball 2021  
Clerk: Sarah Seder 2020  
Collector: Marilyn Wheeler

#### Trustees

James Breslin 2022  
Jan Fichuk 2020  
Trip Gander 2021  
Carolyn MacRae 2020  
Jon Rogers 2022  
Beth Schiller 2021

## Committees and Teams

### Accessibility Team

Jim Easton  
Jerry Saint Amand  
Rachel Marsh-Sachs  
Kathy McKay  
Jim Shipsky  
Ed Spear

### By Laws

Bill Lee: Chair  
Dave Wynne

### Caring Committee

Allane Ball  
Ellie Duhamel  
Marcel Duhamel  
Sally Harwood  
*Carolyn MacRae: Chair*  
Sue Morrill  
Ann Paradis  
Jerry Saint Amand  
Rurik Spence  
Linda Woods

### Collector

Marilyn Wheeler

*Universalist Unitarian Church of Waterville  
69 Silver Street  
Waterville, ME 04901*

*Office Phone: 207-873-4006*

*Non-summer services start at 10:00*

*July & August services start at 9:30*

*Dennis Perkins, President*

[julep1027@yahoo.com](mailto:julep1027@yahoo.com)

*Rurik Spence, Vice President*

[rurik.spence@gmail.com](mailto:rurik.spence@gmail.com)

*Rebecca Heath, Administrative Assistant*

[uuwtvladm@gmail.com](mailto:uuwtvladm@gmail.com)

*Connie Winship, Point Editor*

[cwinship@roadrunner.com](mailto:cwinship@roadrunner.com)

Church website: <http://uucwaterville.com>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/uucwtvl>

## To the Point

So — when does “church” take place? Certainly, in terms of the expenditure of time and money, the Sunday-morning hour-long service is the first answer that comes to mind. Harry, Anna Beth and the UU Singers have spent hours choosing and practicing music. Worship leaders, whether our own or visiting, have spent hours formulating and refining a message, hunting up appropriate accompanying readings, and seeking Worship Associates. Margrit has spent hours selecting a suitable story as well as preparing an RE class. Rebecca has coordinated, printed and folded the (now) almost 70 copies of the Order of Service (OOS).

Dozens of hours of work directed toward the hour of worship. All so church can take place. And yet, doesn't “church” take place in other places as well? What about the “service after the service” where friends and visitors share coffee and snacks while they hash over the service, share stories of their week and just bask in the warmth of their fellows? Isn't that church as well? Or when groups gather on Tuesday morning at church or at Jorgensen's on Thursday for discussion or on Fridays for quiet meditation? What about when members meet to prepare and serve food to the hungry? Or form groups to support climate education? Then there are the hours of Board and Committee work every month and the hours and hours (and hours!) to put on the Lawn Sale and Holiday Fair. And, perhaps most important, what about when each child and adult carries the UU Principles out into their daily exchanges at home, at work, in school? Isn't that “church” as well?

So — when does church take place? Everywhere. All the time.

*Dennis Perkins*

### Communications Team

Luke Brooks-Shesler REM representative  
Peter Burgher Photographer  
Rebecca Heath Administrative Assistant  
Mark Jose Wayside Pulpit  
Karen Kusiak MUSSAN & Facebook  
Charlie Morrill Outside Bulletin Board  
Sue Morrill Interfaith Council  
Beth Schiller Webmaster  
Rurik Spence IT Administrator  
Sarah Webster *The Point* newsletter  
Connie Winship Morning Sentinel Liaison  
*The Point* newsletter  
Co-Chair: Communication Team  
Ray Winship Facebook  
Co-chair Communication Team

### Evening Sandwich Program

Maili Bailey: Director

### ESP Board

Maili Bailey: Director  
Larry Dickey  
Charlie Morrill: Treasurer  
Sue Morrill: President  
Ray & Connie Winship

### Facebook

Karen Kusiak  
Ray Winship

### Fellowship-Membership Team

Bill & Joy Barnett  
Rachel Marsh Sachs  
Kathy McKay  
Dennis Perkins  
Ray Winship

### Finance Committee

*Allane Ball: Chair*  
Peter Burgher  
Mark Jose  
John Wilder  
Dave Wynne

### Housekeeping

Gina Boudreau: Housekeeper  
Maili Bailey: Director

### Interfaith Council

Sue Morrill

### Investment Management

*Peter Burgher: Chair*  
Mark Jose

### Keyboardists

Anna Beth Rynders: Keyboardist  
Anne Marie Thibodeau: Associate Keyboardist

### MUUSAN

[Maine Universalist Unitarian  
State Advocacy Network]  
Karen Kusiak  
Dick Thomas

## From the Editor

This issue marks round two in my crusade to make the newsletter more user-interactive. As it turned out, round one in January did not go well at all. NO hyperlinks went through.

Frazzled, but undeterred, I contacted the tech wizards at Apple Care who were unfailingly polite and attentive even though their expertise is about computer hardware, not software programs like Word. We tried various scenarios without success.

In our back-and-forth conversation they noted that the hyperlinks in the masthead worked perfectly even when the newsletter had been converted to a PDF. Why these hyperlinks and not any of the ones I'd added in the body of the newsletter? After some collaborating among themselves about why this was happening, they came to the conclusion that it was because the masthead hyperlinks included the *email addresses* of the individual persons, *not just their names* as was the case in the body of the January newsletter.

It sounded like a plan. As it turned out it worked in *some of my test emails* to friends. Not all, just some. Technology can be ... frustrating.

Let's see what round three brings. Ray and I visit our computer programmer son in two weeks and he may have a handle on it.

Best, *Connie Winship*

## Stewardship Committee

### A New Heaven and a New Earth: Stewards of Hope

Within the western religious traditions, the idea of a new heaven and a new earth had a powerful effect upon faithful people. First, for the Jewish people living BC, Isaiah promised that history finally would come to an end and that the days of wandering and suffering would be over. Death and sickness would pass away and all living things, man and animal, would live at peace. Hundreds of years later, the Christian mystic John wrote of the same idea in the book of Revelation. His new heaven and earth were even more dramatic: not only would all the evils to which mankind had been subjected disappear, but religion itself would pass away as God and the earth became one.

So what has this to do with UUs in the 21st century? More specifically what does this have to do with the Universalist Unitarian Church of Waterville and pledging for the 2020-21 church year? We UUs are not much concerned with heaven and hell, or with miracles. Or, rather, the kind of miracles with which we are concerned are the slow ones: physical suffering relieved over time through the advancement of science and the courage of love; peace among all people, achieved over generations through the maturation of compassionate politics; and the passing away of fundamentalist religions and ideologies.

For us, the new heaven and the new earth are the NOW heaven and the NOW earth, constantly under construction, following the blueprint of our Principles, working slowly through the world, supported by little congregations like our own, doing the work of the new heaven here in the new earth of Waterville, Maine. We are stewards of hope, dependent each year upon the generosity of each of you with your time, your talent and your treasure. *Dennis Perkins*

## Fellowship Team

The Fellowship Team offers Second Sunday Fun Activities on January 9th. Following coffee hour, crafts, games and music will be available and accompanied by provided lunch offerings of sandwich wraps. Join us for the event, for as much or as little of the time as you wish, and enjoy whichever version of fun you prefer. *Kathy McKay*

### **Nominating Committee**

Peter Burgher  
Karen Kusiak  
Margrit Thomas

### **Planned Giving**

Jon Rogers

### **Point Newsletter**

Connie Winship: Editor  
Sarah Webster: Proofreader  
Marilyn Wheeler: Postal Clerk

### **Property & Grounds**

Jim Ashton  
Jim Easton  
*Jerry Saint Amand: Chair*  
Jim Shipy  
Ed Spear  
John Wilder

### **Religious Education**

Margrit Thomas: DRE

### **Small Group Ministry**

Peter Burgher  
Mark Jose

### **Stewardship Committee**

Peter Burgher  
Sarah Michaud  
Dennis Perkins

### **UU Singers and Musicians**

Maili Bailey  
Bill Barnett  
Nancy Brooks  
Sally Harwood  
Mark Jose  
Christel Kesler  
Iver Lofving  
Elaine Post  
Beth Schiller  
Linda Seekins  
Olga Shabunya Payne  
Anna Beth Rynders  
Dick Thomas  
Margrit Thomas  
Harry Vayo: Director  
Marilyn Wheeler  
Ray Winship  
Linda Woods  
Nancy Wynne

### **Website**

Luke Brooks-Shesler  
Beth Schiller: Co-webmaster  
Rurik Spence: Co-webmaster  
Administrator  
Connie Winship  
Ray Winship

## **Religious Exploration**

Someone asked me today how I find the patience and energy to work with the children in our program every Sunday, when I also work with children Monday through Friday. It is truly not a hardship. Our children are curious, alert, inquisitive and, above all, kind to each other. Despite the range of ages, they have all bonded with each other. So, really, it is my privilege and joy to be with them every Sunday morning. And it is a testament to the patience and care of their parents and all the other adults from our church family who interact and guide them. My thanks to all of you and to the children.

We will continue to work our way through the curriculum *Moral Tales* in the coming months with side adventures to celebrate various holidays.

Thanks to you all for your continuing support and encouragement, Namaste, *Margrit Thomas* DRE

## **Interfaith Council**

Last month, I talked about the Interfaith Resource Fund (IRF) which is managed by the Interfaith Council. Each member of the Interfaith Council contributes to the fund. There are no required donation amounts, and the contributions may vary according to community need.

Our UU contribution is \$150.00 per month as specified by the current budget. The various ministers on the Interfaith Council receive calls from folks asking for help....most likely for rent, heat and utilities. The call information is then passed on to the minister on duty for the day. He/she returns the call for the specifics of the request and then decides how to best handle the request and how much money is available in the IRF.

There is a cap of \$300.00 per person requesting per year. The account is managed through the office of the Pleasant Street United Methodist Church. Below is the latest IRF Report from 4/1/19-12/31/19:

Expended: \$15,664.52  
Received: \$7,725.62  
People Assisted: 71

### Categories of Assistance:

Rent: 36 people assisted, \$9,088  
Oil-Propane: 4 people assisted, \$900.90  
Electric: 7 people assisted, \$1,535.20  
Hotels: 15 people assisted, \$2,511.25  
Other: 9 people assisted, \$1,609.17

Current balance as of 1/8/2020: \$329.48

I am your contact to the Interfaith Council if you hear of anyone in need.  
*Sue Morrill*, ESP Board President

## **Annual Lawn & Plant Sale**

Save the date! The annual Lawn and Plant Sale will be held on Saturday, July 11 from 8:30 a.m. to noon, rain or shine.

Some history: About 30 years ago, **Meg Wickes** and Ann Kempers decided to organize a lawn sale to offer a service to the community and at the same time, raise some money for the church. Little did they know that it would grow into one of our biggest fundraisers, and a summer staple of the Waterville area!  
*Kathy McKay, Linda Lee and Rachel Marsh-Sachs*

### Worship Committee

Steve Ball  
*Luke Brooks-Shesler: Chair*  
Peter Burgher  
Jan Fichuk  
Bernie LaCroix  
Rock LaCroix  
Jan Mathieu  
Sarah Michaud  
Dennis Perkins  
Connie & Ray Winship

### Worship Committee Sub-Committees

#### I. Social Justice

Steve Ball  
Bill Barnett  
Joy Barnett  
Iver Lofving  
Audrey McGee  
Dick Thomas  
Connie Winship  
*Ray Winship: Chair*

#### II. Small Group Ministry

Luke Brooks-Shesler  
*Peter Burgher: Chair*  
Mark Jose

#### III. Spiritual Journeys/ Spiritual Healing

Marian Flaherty  
Mary Matson  
*Sarah Michaud: Chair*  
Deb Stinneford  
Linda Woods  
Nancy Wynne

#### IV. Principles/Faith Traditions

Kathy McKay  
*Dennis Perkins: Chair*  
Jon Rogers

#### V. Fifth Sunday

*Jan Fichuk: Chair*  
Caroline Gander

### Website Updated

Check out the new version of the website (still [www.uucwaterville.com](http://www.uucwaterville.com)) which, as of January 9th, has been moved to the latest "Ministry Designs" platform (3.0). The new software should, among other things, allow us to do better tracking of website usage. Please send any general feedback or suggestions to webmaster Beth Schiller [schillb@colby.edu](mailto:schillb@colby.edu). Thanks!

### Worship Committee Report

We are encouraged that attendance increased by about 2 or 3 people per Sunday worship service in 2019 compared to the same time period in 2018. This modest growth suggests that our church's message is sticking and attracting new people. In addition to increasing the frequency of ordained ministers who lead our services in 2020, we will be increasing the number of messages prepared by ordained UU ministers through [faithrocket.org](http://faithrocket.org) and delivered by members and friends of our congregation.

The Worship Committee has been working on the nuts and bolts of putting together a worship service every Sunday. Over the last six months, we have almost completely transitioned from hard copies to digital. Our meetings include laptops, iPads and smart phones. Our meeting agendas are delivered via email. We have shared Google documents that we view and edit in real-time during our meetings. And we have a digital OOS (order of service) template in Word that we update for each service.

As always, please feel free to invite friends or family to our worship services. We believe the UU message is especially important in today's world and that it will resonate with many people, even those who have never attended a UU worship service.

We are proud to serve this congregation, and please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss our worship.

Sincerely, Luke Brooks-Shesler  
Worship Committee Chair [uuworshipcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:uuworshipcommittee@gmail.com)

### January First Sunday Donation

The January First Sunday donation netted \$228 for the Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area

### Communication Team



The Communication Team has been working closely with the Board to find ways of making the public more aware of who we are. Toward this end, the Communication Team has been exploring less conventional methods of promoting the church than we've relied on in the past. We've discontinued the use of those which have not served us well (REM, the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce) and renewed those that have (Sentinel Summer Worship Directory).

Perhaps one of the most dramatic ways of getting ourselves out to the public has been the recent purchase of advertising time at Railroad Square Cinema. Communication Team member Sarah Webster talked with a representative from RR Square and, together with members of the Communication Team, designed the slide shown at the bottom of this page. The colorful, eye-catching ad is part of the pre-movie slide show shown on all screens for three 6-week cycles. The ad is also featured in the paper program of upcoming movies.

Also dramatic is the re-design of our church website which now includes short videos of church events. The menu bar at the top of the page makes it easy for visitors to get information, and upcoming services and events are prominently displayed. Kudos to Beth Schiller, webmaster, and Rurik Spence, information technologist, who have put in many hours to get the new website up and running. *Connie Winship*, Communication Team co-chair

## Railroad Square Cinema Advertisement



**Universalist Unitarian Church**  
**A Faith for the Future**

[uucwaterville.com](http://uucwaterville.com)  
69 Silver St., Waterville  
(207) 873-4006

**Sunday Service: 10 a.m.**  
Childcare provided  
All are welcome!

Why did the Board decide to advertise its existence this year, beginning with Railroad Square? Honestly, there is more than one answer.

First and fundamental is that without increasing membership to match the normal attrition of the aging members of the congregation, our church will find itself in the position of so many of our Protestant and Catholic compatriots: shriveling toward extinction. But that's also a little misleading, like saying the purpose of living is to be able to breathe. True, but backward.

There is a more important reason for drawing attention to ourselves than simply continuing to exist. Modern individuals, thanks to expanding scientific education, are finding the religion of antiquity less and less credible and therefore the necessity of attending church less compelling. And yet, the degree of spiritual curiosity which today's men and women

feel seems not to have abated at all. That's where we UUs have much to offer.

The Board thinks that if the spiritually curious can be drawn to look at our website, there is a good chance they'll want to "try out" our church. Our openness, our friendliness, our fun, our creative services, coupled with the natural wisdom of our Principles, may be just what the modern person is looking for. *Dennis Perkins*

### Evening Sandwich Program

I am happy to report that about two-thirds of our guests are using reusable grocery bags and/or backpacks.

The Evening Sandwich Program appreciates the donations from MaineGeneral's Thayer Center for Health in Waterville. Donations of salmon and milk recently helped to create salmon chowder and a yummy mac and cheese....a big favorite!

Thank you to all those who contributed to ESP during the holiday season. Thank you to all of you who cook the beans we need for soup and chili.

February is the last month of our winter hours (3:30-4:30 instead of the usual 4-5). This has worked well and as the days get longer, our guests no longer wait in the dark.

Maili and several students from Colby celebrated MLK JR Day of Service by replacing the contact paper lining in the kitchen cupboards, followed by a well-earned lunch up at Colby. *Sue Morrill*, ESP President

### Being a Unitarian Universalist



Being a Unitarian Universalist actually asks a lot of us, and it isn't for everybody:

- We discuss important questions but refuse to give you a simple, rote answer.
- We ask you to believe that you are worthy of compassion and respect, as so is literally everyone else.
- We ask you to love humanity while fully acknowledging the bad things we need to be discouraged from doing to one another.
- We make no promise of eternal reward (or punishment), but tell you that your actions will live on, and they matter anyway.
- We ask that you keep trying to be your best self, without telling you what that is supposed to be,

though we will be there to help you figure it out for yourself.

Just because we are willing to accept everyone does not mean that we should expect everyone to feel like they belong. Some people will not be comfortable in liberal religion. Some people need certainties we cannot give them in good faith.

We cannot convert people to Unitarian Universalism; they either understand it and want to be part of it, or not. They see us doing together what they are already doing alone, and some of them will want to be part of that community. Those people are out there, waiting to hear about us. Let's make sure they find us. Let's go invite them in.

Help us reach people who might not know that UUism exists:

[Ko-fi.com/IAmUU](http://Ko-fi.com/IAmUU)

## Services at a Glance

February 2

Worship Leader: Rev. Nancy Campbell

Worship Associate: Sarah Michaud

Message: *The Beat Goes On*

Together we will examine some of the universal spiritual questions that face us in these difficult times.

February 9

Worship Leader: Audrey McGee

Speaker: Katie Clifford

Message: *Meeting Childhood Adversity with Compassion*

Using my own social work experiences, I plan to talk about adverse childhood experiences and the impacts they have on children and adults. I also plan to talk about how the UU principles of compassion with every person and believing in the dignity of every person can be used in social work and, more importantly, in every human interaction. I hope to inspire in listeners compassion for every child (no matter how difficult), and to increase compassion for every adult (no matter how difficult) who was once a child, most likely impacted by adverse childhood experiences, and to encourage compassion for ourselves as well.

February 16

Worship Leader: Christel Kesler

*The Faith of a Trapeze Artist*

Christel Kesler will deliver a message written by Neal Jones and obtained through [faithrocket.org](http://faithrocket.org). This message explores faith as a willingness to take risks and ways that we can sustain our faith during challenging times in our lives.

February 23

Worship Leader: Luke Brooks-Shesler

*Spiritual Autobiographies*

Luke Brooks-Shesler will lead a service entitled "Spiritual Autobiographies," which will be held in Averill Parlors. This service will be a little different than our usual services and will follow the same format as the first spiritual autobiographies service on September 1, 2019. During this service we will think back to our notions of spirituality when we were adolescents. Those who are willing will be invited to share their thoughts and experiences.

# February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 First Sunday Donation Family Violence Project  Hospitality Team # 6  10:00 Rev Nancee Campbell <i>The Beat Goes On</i>  11:00 – 12:00 Coffee Hour  4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	3  4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	4 11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group  4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	5 10:00 – 1:00 Arts and Crafts Group  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	6 9:30 – 11:00 Men’s Coffee Jorgensen’s  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	7 11:30 – 1:30 Women’s Group  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	8
9 Hospitality Team # 7 Super Wagon Sunday  10:00 Speaker: Katie Clifford <i>Meeting Childhood Adversity                      with Compassion</i>  11:00 – 12:00 Coffee Hour  4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	10 4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	11 11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group  4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program  5:00 – 6:00 Worship Committee meets	12 10:00 – 1:00 Arts and Crafts Group  10:00 – 12:00 Small Group Ministry Mark Jose  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program  6:00 – 8:00 Board of Trustees meets	13 9:30 – 11:00 Men’s Coffee Jorgensen’s  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	14 Valentine’s Day    11:30 – 1:30 Women’s Group  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	15
16 Hospitality Team # 8  10:00 Christel <i>The Faith of a Trapeze Artist</i>  11:00 – 12:00 Coffee Hour  4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	17 President’s Day  4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	18  11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group  4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	19 10:00 – 1:00 Arts and Crafts Group  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program  6:00 – 8:00 Small Group Ministry Peter Burgher	20 9:30 – 11:00 Men’s Coffee Jorgensen’s  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	21 11:30 – 1:30 Women’s Group  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	22
23 Hospitality Team # 1  10:00 Luke Brooks-Shesler <i>Spiritual Autobiographies</i>  11:00 – 12:00 Coffee Hour  4:00 Evening Sandwich Program	24 4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	25 Mardi Gras  11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group  4:00 - 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	 ASH WEDNESDAY  26 10:00 – 1:00 Arts and Crafts Group  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	27 9:30 – 11:00 Men’s Coffee Jorgensen’s  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	28 11:30 – 1:30 Women’s Group  4:00 – 5:00 Evening Sandwich Program	29    LEAP YEAR