

February  
2021

# The Point

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

Office Phone: 207-873-4006

Services start at 10:00 a.m.

*Dennis Perkins, President*  
[julep1027@yahoo.com](mailto:julep1027@yahoo.com)

*Rurik Spence, Vice President*  
[rurik.spence@gmail.com](mailto:rurik.spence@gmail.com)

*Beth Schiller, Administrative Director*  
[uuwv1adm@gmail.com](mailto:uuwv1adm@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/uucwvtvl>

**During the corona virus pandemic  
online worship services will be held at 10:00 a.m.  
and will be followed by a virtual Coffee Hour.  
For more information, go to [uucwaterville.com](http://uucwaterville.com)  
All are welcomed**

## To the Point

From 500 BC: "Thou shalt not lie."

From the last two centuries of American courtrooms: "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?"

From UU Principle #4: "A free and responsible search for truth and meaning."

On January 6, 2021, the Capitol of the United States was attacked by some of its own citizens, incited by its own president and all because of the incredibly destructive act of LYING. The fundamental lie that the 2020 election for president was stolen was promulgated over and over again by the man who lost the election and repeated and intensified by social media and cable media whose sole objective was to increase the size of its audience rather than insisting on discovering and transmitting the truth.

Never has it been more obvious or more important to honor our UU Principle #4. We are responsible to search for the truth — political, scientific, personal — in all of our activities large and small. We have all seen clearly in these last weeks the awful cost of deceit.

*Dennis Perkins, President, Board of Trustees*

## Committee Members, Officers and Trustees

### Board of Trustees and Officers

#### Officers

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

#### Trustees

Elyse Apantaku 2022  
Katie Clifford 2022  
Trip Gander 2021  
Sally Harwood 2022  
Jon Rogers 2022  
Beth Schiller 2021

## Committees and Teams

#### Bookkeeper

Katrina Goodrich

#### By Laws

Bill Lee: Chair  
Dave Wynne

#### Caring Committee

Allane Ball  
Ellie Duhamel  
Marcel Duhamel  
Carolyn MacRae: Chair  
Sue Morrill  
Ann Paradis  
Rurik Spence  
Linda Woods

#### Collector

Mark Jose  
Marilyn Wheeler

#### Communications Team

Peter Burgher	Photographer
Beth Schiller:	Administrative Director
Mark Jose	Wayside Pulpit
Karen Kusiak	Community Liaison
	Facebook
Carolyn MacRae	Photographer
Charlie Morrill	Outside Bulletin Board
Sue Morrill	Interfaith Council
Beth Schiller	Webmaster
Rurik Spence	IT Administrator
Sarah Webster	The Point newsletter
Connie Winship	Community Liaison
	The Point newsletter
	Co-Chair Comm Team
	Facebook
Ray Winship	Co-Chair Comm Team

## Evening Sandwich Program

### ESP Board

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

### Facebook

Karen Kusiak  
Ray Winship

### Fellowship/Membership Committee

Bill Barnett  
Joy Barnett  
Jan Fichuk  
Rachel Marsh Sachs: co-chair  
Kathy McKay: co-chair  
Dennis Perkins  
Ray Winship

### Finance Committee

Peter Burgher  
Mark Jose  
Margrit Thomas  
Dave Wynne

### History and Archives

Kit Alexander  
John Wilder

### Housekeeping

Gina Boudreau: Housekeeper  
Maili Bailey: Director

### Interfaith Council

Sue Morrill

### Investment Management

Peter Burgher: Chair  
Mark Jose  
Jon Rogers

### MUUSAN

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

### Nominating Committee.

Peter Burgher  
Karen Kusiak  
Margrit Thomas: Chair

### Organists

Anna Beth Rynders: Lead Organist  
Beth Schiller  
Anne Marie Thibodeau

### Planned Giving

Jon Rogers

### Point Newsletter

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

### Property & Grounds

Trip Gander: Chair  
Dennis Perkins  
Jerry Saint Amand  
Ed Spear

## From the Editor

It is with mixed feelings that I announce my retirement as editor of *The Point*, effective June 2021, the official end of the church year.

Being editor of the church newsletter has been an incredible adventure! When I signed on to do it, it was intended to be a short gig to help a friend who needed to cut back on outside activities so she could care for her gravely ill husband. No one was more surprised than I that being an editor would be such a good fit. One month led to another and then a year passed. And so on. It just evolved. I never would have imagined that I would be doing it 18 years later!

I've tried my best to live up to the standards that Rev. Robbins, our first editor, established 37 years ago when he put pen to paper and formalized his goals for *The Point*.

*The Point is an attempt at a monthly newsletter for our church that may not rival the popularity of the Morning Sentinel but will, however, provide news, comments, personal items, perhaps inspiration, poetry and pithy sayings, i.e. items to the point or somewhere close to it.*

*Whatever else can be said about it, it will have to be modest, because it will be a modest newsletter. The kind of newsletter that does not worry about unimportant issues but expresses concern for important ones, in good taste and with a sense of humor (hopefully).*

I take this opportunity to thank the various committees and Board members for giving me carte blanche all these years – I pretty much had free rein to try new formats, experiment with fonts, tables, layouts, etc. I am grateful to Sarah Webster who has been proofreader/editor for all of the 18 years and has agreed to continue in this role! She has been a great partner whose advice I sought when I was not sure what to do. Without doubt, she made my columns more readable. Lastly, thanks to each of you who offered support and suggestions along the way. It all helped to make *The Point* a newsletter for which we can all be proud.

In friendship and gratitude, *Connie Winship*

## Evening Sandwich Program: Mailing Address

A reminder from Charlie Morrill, Treasurer of ESP, that the Evening Sandwich Program has its own mailing address (below) which is separate from the church mailing address.

Questions about ESP can be best answered by [Sue Morrill](#), ESP Board President or [Charlie Morrill](#), ESP Treasurer.

Evening Sandwich Program  
P.O. Box 2471  
Waterville, ME **04903-2471**

**Religious Education**  
Margrit Thomas: DRE

**Small Group Ministry**  
Peter Burgher  
Mark Jose

**Stewardship Committee**  
Allane Ball  
Peter Burgher  
Sarah Michaud  
Dennis Perkins

**UU Singers and Musicians**

Maili Bailey  
Bill Barnett  
Nancy Brooks  
Jan Fichuk  
Sally Harwood  
Mark Jose  
Joanna Linden  
Iver Lofving  
Anna Beth Rynders  
Beth Schiller  
Linda Seekins  
Olga Shabunya  
Dick Thomas  
Margrit Thomas  
Harry Vayo: Director  
Marilyn Wheeler  
Ray Winship  
Linda Woods  
Nancy Wynne

**Website**

Beth Schiller: Webmaster  
Rurik Spence: IT Administrator

**Welcoming Congregation**

**Worship Committee**

Jim Evans  
Caroline Gander  
Karen Kusiak  
Sarah Michaud: Co-chair  
Dennis Perkins: Co-chair  
Connie Winship  
Ray Winship

**Worship Committee  
Sub-Committees**

**I. Social Justice**

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

**II. Small Group Ministry**

Mark Jose

## Fellowship Committee

In a recent CNN article, Dr. Sanjay Gupta makes recommendations that fit well with our Fellowship Committee's goal of bringing people together to make and keep connections within our UU community.

Says Dr. Gupta: "A better strategy, in addition to playing mind-bending games on your own, is to engage with others and work on your relationships. Another recent finding in science has been that the strength of our relationships is much more essential to our health — and health span — or how long we live in good health — than previously recognized. Instead of spending time passively using a computer screen to binge-watch shows or scroll aimlessly through the internet, use that time in virtual chats with friends and family. As I like to say, 'connection for protection, even when physically distanced.' And when you can see people in person, focus on eye contact; it's more important than ever to ease the stress of masked faces. As loneliness researcher Stephanie Cacioppo told me, the eyes reflect more authentic emotion as well."

The Tuesday Discussion Group, Wednesday's Arts & Crafts Group, the Thursday Men's Coffee Group, the Thursday night Coffee House and the Friday Women's Group, as well as our Sunday Service, Joys & Concerns and Coffee Hour, all bring us together. In the give and take, we find meaning, joy, fellowship, community, friendship, understanding and companionship. And we have FUN together! Please join us by Zoom. Details are on the church calendar and in the Mid-week Update. Everyone is welcome! *Fellowship Committee.*

## Interfaith Council

The Interfaith Council began with Community Issues. Paige Begley from the Colby Office of Civic Engagement was introduced. Her office is located on Main Street. She reports that Colby's January Plan began on January 11, 2021. Each student will be tested three times per week.

The Interfaith Resource Fund (IRF) received \$500.00 from the Pleasant Street Methodist Church from their Alternative Christmas Fair. The IRF received many calls right before Christmas from folks needing toys for their children. Also there are more requests from the elderly this year.

It was suggested that ESP and the newly formed Waterville Area Soup Kitchen produce and post a flyer listing places and times free food is available.

News from the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter reports that due to a new grant, they will expand their current 14-hotel- room capacity to 30 until March 31, 2021. The shelter will staff these rooms 24/7. The hotel will provide food for these residents.

Congregational Issues reported that if you have driven by the Pleasant Street Methodist Church and wondered what the ribbons on the railing are for, there is one for each person in Maine who has died from COVID-19. Sadly, the top rail is full and ribbons are now being added daily to the second rail.

Be well. *Sue Morrill*

### III. Spiritual Journeys/ Spiritual Healing

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

### Evening Sandwich Program

ESP is continuing to operate two days per week, Tuesday and Friday. Sandwiches are made and handed out by UU Church volunteers on Tuesday. On Friday, volunteers from St. Mark's Episcopal Church make sandwiches there and deliver them to our kitchen and our UU volunteers distribute them. In addition to sandwiches, the Food Bank, located at the Pleasant Street Methodist Church, donates bread, fruit and vegetables as well as desserts.

### IV. Principles/Faith Traditions

Kathy McKay  
Dennis Perkins: Chair  
Jon Rogers

The number of guests remains low — around 20. Some reasons may include new COVID-19 funds, cold weather, not being open six days a week as before the pandemic ( who really knows what day it is?), or larger food distribution at other locations such as the Winslow Food Cupboard.

Thank you for your continuing support. Just a reminder: ESP has its own post office box in Waterville. Please send any correspondence to Evening Sandwich Program, PO Box 2471, Waterville, ME 04903. Note correct zip code (04903)

Thank You, *Sue Morrill*, ESP President

### The UU Singers are Back!

Since singing is one of the most effective ways to spread COVID, the UU Singers have not made music together in person for months. However, with help from technology, we are now able to sing safely from our own homes and join our voices together in a virtual choir. Last October, Harry Vayo attended (virtually, of course) a workshop sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Society of Laconia (NH) explaining the process in detail. Using our laptops, tablets, headphones and smartphones, and with assistance from Google Drive, we learned our parts and recorded our voices individually. Bill Barnett then acted as our recording engineer, mixing our voices into a harmonious whole. Thanks to Bill and to all the singers who were willing to try something new and make this project a success!

Our first virtual piece was "Silent Night," which you heard at the Christmas Eve service. There will be more. We plan to record one virtual choir piece each month for the duration of the pandemic while we await that blessed day when we can meet and sing together again in person. Until then, thanks for listening to the UU Virtual Choir! *Harry Vayo*

### Wabanaki Justice - January 31, 2021

The Wabanaki Ally Team from First Parish in Portland invites UUs in Maine to support legislation to update the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementation Act to bring it into compliance with current Federal Indian law and provide the same or similar sovereignty as that of the other 500 tribes in the United States. The Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network's (MUUSAN) Racial, Native, and Immigrant Justice Issue Group also supports legislation to update the 1980 Act.

The Wabanaki Ally Team and MUUSAN will be asking UUs to support the legislation through letter writing and by contacting their local state representative and senator. The bills related to this legislation have yet to be published, but the identifying numbers for the Legislative Requests and the sponsors are:

- LR 196, submitted by Representative Jeffrey,
- LR 1341 and LR 1337, submitted by Representative Talbot-Ross, and
- LR 1787 submitted by Representative Christopher.

While the texts of the LRs listed above are not available, when published, the associated LDs (bills) are expected to address the items that were in LD 2094 in the 129th Legislature which adjourned early due to the pandemic. LD 2094 from last year aimed to implement the consensus recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act. The task force released its report on January 14, 2020 and you can read it here: <http://legislature.maine.gov/maine-indian-claims-tf>

The Wabanaki Ally Team recruited volunteers from every UU church or fellowship in Maine to serve as conduits of information about the legislation for updating the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act. Karen Kusiak agreed to serve as the conduit, or liaison, for this project. Karen will host a "2nd hour" session during the usual coffee hour break out time on Zoom on January 31, 2021. The session will not last an hour and will largely have as its purpose gathering names of folks who are interested in this project and also distributing any information from First Parish's Wabanaki Ally team and MUUSAN about the bills.

Procedurally, folks who want to be in a coffee hour break out room to learn about the Wabanaki Ally Project will be placed in a break out room for this purpose. Other folks can participate in "regular" break out rooms for visiting as usual on January 31. *Karen Kusiak*

## **Worship Committee**

The Worship Committee is hard at work setting up Zoom services for the months of February, March, and April. We will have a number of ministers visiting us again: old friends Nancee Campbell, Twinkle Manning, Sarah Gillespie, Carl Shesler and Katie Covie have all committed to services over the next three months. In addition, we hope that once per month, the UU Singers will reprise their Christmas Eve technical magic of recorded harmonies.

New committee members Karen Kusiak and Caroline Gander have jumped into the action serving as Worship Associates and Zoom operators, as well as planning services. To show the level of dedication, Karen attended the January Zoom Worship Committee meeting immediately after eye surgery!

Finally, as we head into our fifth year of lay-led and lay-organized services, we hope more members and friends of the church will take the opportunity to become a member of the Worship Committee. It's easy and it's fun. *Dennis Perkins*, co-chair of the Worship Committee.

## **Stewardship Report**

It's that time again. Despite all the challenges we are facing as a people, a country and a world, the Universalist Unitarian Church of Waterville, Maine, will continue to bring its message of hope, tolerance and discovery to our congregation and to our community. One of the ways we do this is through our annual pledge drive. This year, the drive begins with Stewardship Sunday on January 31 and runs through the end of February. The theme this year is Stewards of Patience and Light.

Patience and light. How often these two have been combined in the stories, legends, songs and symbols of the world's religions! "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!" For UUs, this beautiful little revival hymn captures both aspects of the light of our chalice: the warm light of compassion from our Universalist heritage and the unwavering, cool clarity of the light of reason from our Unitarian founders. Added to that are the patience and persistence necessary to keep that light burning — no matter how difficult the circumstances, no matter how delayed the reward for our efforts.

Our goal this year is to match last year's \$60,000. With all of your help we can do it. *Stewardship Committee*

## **About February**

February is not for the faint hearted, I think.

It is so exceedingly ordinary,  
having neither the romance of spring  
nor the bravado of winter.

And the ordinary is tough, it seems to me, demanding as it does not only endurance but imagination.

We gather on this late winter morning  
in a village of faith,

warmed by those who join us,

saying to one another by our presence here that together we find comfort and even hope in the gray days of February,  
in the dailiness of our lives.

We have noted the light of the late afternoons and the odd and out-of-sequence melting day.

Join in meditation, in praise of simple stamina, and with faith in renewal.

Kay Montgomery

## Services at a Glance

February 7    Worship Leader: Rev. Sarah Gillespie  
Worship Associate: Caroline Gander

### *Groundhog Day*

Groundhog Day has come and with it an iconic and theological film that speaks to our time. How do we decide what matters when many days are the same? What brings us meaning during this challenging time?

February 14    Worship Leader: Rev. Nancee Campbell  
Worship Associate: Dennis Perkins

### *Won't You be My Valentine?*

The Hallmark Card holiday dedicated to love comes around once a year and we all have to decide how to acknowledge it or not. Does this occasion take on special meaning during the pandemic?

February 21    Worship Leader: Jim Evans  
Worship Associate: Ray Winship

### *Understanding and Accepting the Mentally Ill*

Jim Evans will talk about living with a mental illness and how to focus on positive solutions.

February 28    Worship Leader: Rev. Twinkle Marie Manning  
Worship Associate: Sarah Seder

### *The Best of You!*

A compelling look at the people, places and things to whom we give our time, talents and energies.

## How to Contact Officers and Trustees

Officers	Trustees
President: Dennis Perkins <a href="mailto:julep1027@yahoo.com">julep1027@yahoo.com</a>	Elyse Apantaku <a href="mailto:emapantaku@gmail.com">emapantaku@gmail.com</a>
Vice President: Rurik Spence <a href="mailto:rurik.spence@gmail.com">rurik.spence@gmail.com</a>	Katie Clifford <a href="mailto:clifford.katiemae@gmail.com">clifford.katiemae@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer: Allane Ball <a href="mailto:allaneball@gmail.com">allaneball@gmail.com</a>	Trip Gander <a href="mailto:tripgander@gmail.com">tripgander@gmail.com</a>
Clerk: Sarah Seder <a href="mailto:sseder@roadrunner.com">sseder@roadrunner.com</a>	Sally Harwood <a href="mailto:harwood8350@roadrunner.com">harwood8350@roadrunner.com</a>
Collector: Marilyn Wheeler <a href="mailto:mwhee64@gmail.com">mwhee64@gmail.com</a>	Jon Rogers <a href="mailto:sebasticook53@gmail.com">sebasticook53@gmail.com</a>
	Beth Schiller <a href="mailto:schillb@colby.edu">schillb@colby.edu</a>

# February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group  Contact Carolyn MacRae ( <a href="mailto:carolynmacrae@gmail.com">carolynmacrae@gmail.com</a> ) for sign-in instructions  3:00 – 4:00 Evening Sandwich Program	3 11:00 – 1:00 Arts and Crafts Group For more information, contact <a href="mailto:uuvtvladm@gmail.com">uuvtvladm@gmail.com</a>	4 9:30 – 11:00 Men's Coffee Contact Ray Winship <a href="mailto:rwinship@roadrunner.com">rwinship@roadrunner.com</a>  6:30 – 8:00 Zoom Coffeehouse For more information, go to <a href="https://vayowoods@live.com">vayowoods@live.com</a>	5 11:00 – 1:00 Women's Group For more information, contact <a href="mailto:uuvtvladm@gmail.com">uuvtvladm@gmail.com</a>  3:00 – 4:00 Evening Sandwich Program	6
7 10:00 Online Service  Rev. Sarah Gillespie <i>Groundhog Day</i>  11:00 - 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour	8	9 11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group Contact Carolyn MacRae ( <a href="mailto:carolynmacrae@gmail.com">carolynmacrae@gmail.com</a> ) for sign-in instructions  3:00 – 4:00 Evening Sandwich Program	10 10:00 – 12:00 Small Group Ministry Mark Jose  11:00 – 1:00 Arts and Crafts Group For more information, contact <a href="mailto:uuvtvladm@gmail.com">uuvtvladm@gmail.com</a>	11 9:30 – 11:00 Men's Coffee Contact Ray Winship <a href="mailto:rwinship@roadrunner.com">rwinship@roadrunner.com</a>  6:30 – 8:00 Zoom Coffeehouse For more information, go to <a href="https://vayowoods@live.com">vayowoods@live.com</a>	12 11:00 – 1:00 Women's Group. For more information, contact <a href="mailto:uuvtvladm@gmail.com">uuvtvladm@gmail.com</a>  3:00 – 4:00 Evening Sandwich Program	13
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21 10:00 Online Service  Jim Evans <i>Understanding and Accepting the Mentally Ill</i>  11:00 12:00 Virtual Coffee Hour	22	23 11:00 – 1:00 Discussion Group Contact Carolyn MacRae ( <a href="mailto:carolynmacrae@gmail.com">carolynmacrae@gmail.com</a> ) for sign-in instructions  3:00 – 4:00 Evening Sandwich Program	24 11:00 – 1:00 Arts and Crafts Group For more information, contact <a href="mailto:uuvtvladm@gmail.com">uuvtvladm@gmail.com</a>	25 9:30 – 11:00 Men's Coffee Contact Ray Winship <a href="mailto:rwinship@roadrunner.com">rwinship@roadrunner.com</a>  6:30 – 8:00 Zoom Coffeehouse For more information, go to <a href="https://vayowoods@live.com">vayowoods@live.com</a>	26 11:00 – 1:00 Women's Group For more information, contact <a href="mailto:uuvtvladm@gmail.com">uuvtvladm@gmail.com</a>  3:00 – 4:00 Evening Sandwich Program	27
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