



# The NUUS

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth  
121 Bucksport Rd., Ellsworth, ME 04605

(207) 667-4393

www.uuellsworth.org

Volume 41

No. 5 May 2009

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## A Month of Sundays

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(All services at 10:30 a.m.)

**May 3.** *Beltane: Wake now My Senses*

Our senses are the gateways to our bodies, and our bodies are where spirit and mind meet the world. What is pain? What is pleasure? On this first day of summer in the neopagan calendar we'll explore the lushness that our senses offer.

Rev. Leela Sinha

**May 10.** Mother's Day--pulpit exchange! In a tradition that reaches back to our beginnings in early America, Rev. Mark Glovin who serves First Universalist in Rockland, will lead today's service at UUCE while Leela leads the service in Rockland. Mark's warm, rich, inviting style will be a real treat.

**May 17.** *Let us blossom! Summer is where it all starts.*

We will celebrate the end of the church school year, the richness of community and the unfolding of the future.

Flower Communion: In this multigenerational service we'll exchange flowers in the fourth communion of the year, a symbol of the interconnectedness of our community and the beauty that we all bring. Please bring a flower from home if you can; if you can't, please come anyway!

There are always enough flowers to go around.

Rev. Leela Sinha

**May 24.** Sonia Turanski, Director of Religious Exploration (youth) and Religious Education (adults), along with teachers and older youth will conduct the worship service.

**May 31.** *Making Memories*

Happiness studies show that people derive more pleasure from experiences than from things. What memories are we making?

Rev. Leela Sinha

## SPRING CLEAN UP!!

SATURDAY MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> AND MAY 9<sup>TH</sup>  
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

We need to have folk who will push brooms, trim plants and trees, rake leaves, pick up sticks and restore our Meditation Garden.

Bring the tools you like to use. Does anyone have wood chips for the Garden path?

Sue Clark will be there from 10 am to 1 pm both Saturdays and would love your help, please.

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## Unexpected Grace

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I decided to prune the raspberries today. It's been getting warm; they were starting to bud, and once the leaves come it will be impossible to tell dead from living.

So I took my new anvil clippers out, and I pruned.  
Bare handed.

I know better. I have been around prickly bushes of one kind or another practically since birth, and I know in particular that raspberries and blackberries have one of the best defense mechanisms in the natural world. The big thorns are only the beginning--between and among them are the small thorns, and then the tiny, wiry hairs that are nearly invisible once they have slipped into your skin.

None the less, I did what I set out to do. I began without gloves because I couldn't find the gloves. I continued because I have tough hands, a high pain tolerance, and a stubborn streak. I found that I liked working bare-handed. Bare hands are about dexterity and flexibility and adaptation. Gloved hands are about blundering through.

I also found that it wasn't too difficult to manage. The dead canes shed their skin, and with it, the majority of their thorns. The live ones I could pick up with the clippers themselves. I could slip in and among them, dodging and weaving until the cane I needed to trim was free.

And once I was done, the path down the middle once more revealed, I brought the clippers in, brought the dog in, filled the bathroom sink with warm water, and stuck my hands in. A few minutes later, most of the thorns had surfaced and I pulled them out. It's one of the remarkable properties of skin--that it will heal itself. It will scab and scar, certainly, but it will also reject foreign objects, things like slivers and splinters and metal

shavings and fiberglass...and raspberry thorns. Go on, ask me how I know.

Tough hands and a stubborn streak--and an absolute faith in the healing power of growth. As the skin absorbs water, as the dead cells slough off, as new cells take their place, our bodies keep things moving. Even the solid stuff of our world can change, and eventually, in the words of Anais Nin, ""the day [comes] when the pain it [takes] to remain tight in a bud [becomes] greater than the pain it [takes] to blossom".

May we know it when we blossom.

blessings,  
Leela

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## Membership Committee

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Welcome to our new member- **Candy Backorik** who joined on Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>.

The UUCE Directory of Members and Friends will be published in May. If you wish to be included (or removed) from the directory, or have any updated information, please send it to [caitlin@uuellsworth.org](mailto:caitlin@uuellsworth.org) or contact Peggie Geiger: [peggeigeiger@hotmail.com](mailto:peggeigeiger@hotmail.com) or 288-2335.

### COMING ATTRACTION

**Ashley Bryan**, of Little Cranberry Island, noted poet, artist, author of numerous children's books, and world renowned supporter of improving schools in places suffering from a lack of facilities, teachers and equipment, will be our speaker on July 5. Stefanie Alley, a Little Cranberry neighbor and friend of Ashley, is helping to organize the service.

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## Religious Exploration and Education

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Greetings from RE! Glorious spring has everyone a-buzz with creative activity. Stop by to see the progress of the wall painting in the youth room.

### Sunday Religious Exploration Program

#### Nursery

May 3, 10, 17, 24

Care provided by Helen Conway for our tiny tots

#### Children

May 3, 10

Spirit play under the loving guidance of Anne Ossana

#### Jr. & Sr. Youth

May 3, 10

Preparation for Youth service led by Sonia Turanski

### Special Reminders

#### May 17 – **Flower Communion**

No classes for Children, Jr. & Sr. Youth, as they are welcome to the special intergenerational services honoring the blossoming spring.

#### May 24 – **Youth Led Service**

Please join us in the sanctuary for this special Sunday worship conducted by our Jr. & Sr. Youth group.

With Aloha (love) and Mahalo (thanks),  
Sonia Turanski, DRE

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## Caring Corner

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Please keep Mary Ann Solet in your thoughts as she deals with health issues.

Thanks, Dartha

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## Pulpit Supply/ Worship Committee On the Way Back!

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Chair Cynthia Perkins is pleased and encouraged to announce that Eileen Brennen, Judith Toland and Matt Slater are joining the Committee. Bob Dickens will be available to share his wisdom from time to time. As always, comments, service leader and service content ideas from the congregation are not only welcome, but actively sought. Of late the Committee has functioned basically as a Pulpit Supply source. We believe that the Worship Committee has a broader responsibility than that and hope to segue into worship service input as soon as, if not before, we have arranged the eleven services which will occur Leela's during absence mid June (to attend GA) and July and August, her time for vacation and study.

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## UUCE Down East Discussion Group Winter – Spring Schedule 2009

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The Down East Discussion Group is open to all and welcomes new members. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at noon. Bring a sandwich for yourself. Beverages and dessert will be provided by the host of the month. For directions or questions, please call the host of the month.

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Host: Peggy Drake (546-8970) Steuben

Topic: TBA

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Host: Richard Thurston (546-2235) Steuben

Picnic and Planning Meeting

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## Food Pantry

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### Shaw's Neighborhood Reward Program

AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2009 SHAW'S HAS ENDED THE RECEIPT REWARDS PROGRAM. THEY ARE INSTITUTING A NEW NEIGHBORHOOD REWARDS PROGRAM TO GIVE NON-PROFIT GROUPS A CHANCE TO EARN MONEY.

**HOW TO EARN REWARDS:** Shop at any Shaw's store on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday and use your registered Shaw's rewards card number (#49001018490). Shaw's will contribute 1% of all eligible reward card purchases made on those days to the designated non-profit you choose.

### **HOW TO REGISTER YOUR CARD:**

1. You need to register for the program by going on-line to <shaws.com/neighborhoodrewards>.
2. Once there you will need to type in your rewards card number and your telephone number (the one you signed up for the rewards card with).
3. You can then choose Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry to receive your support by typing in our name and organization #49001018490 or typing Ellsworth, Maine and all the choices available in Ellsworth will come up.
4. You then click on the group(s) you want to support.
5. Shaw's will then track your spending and send Loaves & Fishes a check
6. You will need to register every year.

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## Planting for Plenty: Fair?

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Are you a gardening guru? Do you grow more seedlings than you can plant? Do you have a lush farm or a flock of super-productive chickens? Are you willing to share your expertise or your abundance? The stewardship campaign was only the beginning! Contact Leela ([minister@uuellsworth.org](mailto:minister@uuellsworth.org)) if you'd like to run a gardening workshop or participate in a seedling swap. We can lower our food costs by hundreds if we grow productive gardens and share what we can't use.

I'd like to see us do a seedling swap in May, maybe a few technique workshops in early summer, a class in preservation options, perhaps a canning day when the harvest threatens to overwhelm us, and then a harvest exchange whenever it makes sense. I'd like them to be free and open to the whole community, and well-advertised. If you would like to be part of this chance to make our gardens make a difference, please contact Leela ([minister@uuellsworth.org](mailto:minister@uuellsworth.org)) as soon as possible. Thanks!

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## Items from the HCCN Calendar

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May 1: Fifth Annual May Day Solidarity Dinner to celebrate labor history w/food and program, 5 PM, Food AND Medicine, 20 Ivers St., Brewer. Call 989-5860 or [www.foodandmedicine.org](http://www.foodandmedicine.org).

May 2-3: Maine AIDS Walks in eight locations (Portsmouth to Ellsworth) to raise money and awareness about AIDS services and prevention. Maine AIDS Alliance, 621-2924.

May 20: "Sick Around the World" film shown and discussion/planning for single payer health care rally on May 30, 6 PM, Free Library, Belfast. Call 338-5089.

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## From The Board

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Attending: Board members President Ruth Eveland, Vice President David Towle, Treasurer Don Martin, Cynthia Perkins, John Fink, Becca Gagne, Anne Ossanna, Toby Manring, and Judy Rothrock. Also attending were Minister Leela Sinha, and Anne Funderburk, Lance Funderburk, Kathy Moulton-Applewhite, Jim Applewhite, George Marcus, Pam Person, Phil Person, Karen Volckhausen, Eileen Brennan, Jenn Phipps, Diana Cate and Bob Dickens. (I think that was everyone; please forgive me if I missed anyone.)

Many took advantage of the Congregational Comment period to speak about the proposed visionary budget. Most expressed concern about the possible use of endowment funds to balance the budget. (The Board had already agreed not to draw on the endowment.) There was a request for alternate versions of the budget for consideration at the discussion planned for April 19<sup>th</sup>, before the Annual Parish Meeting. Some spoke for the necessity of cutting staffing or salaries; others were not in favor of that.

When we began the actual discussion of the budget Ruth reiterated her perspective that it represents a plan toward our not-yet-fully-articulated goals and vision, and urged the Board to consider the programs and services as well as the actual dollars in any particular line. David offered a new spreadsheet, which made severe cuts in many areas from the version on the table but was balanced. I can only say "There was much discussion." The Board finally agreed that we could offer a balanced budget that included an across the board cut in staffing. It was agreed that Ruth, David, and Don would meet to make another pass at the numbers. This would be sent out to the Board and those in attendance in advance of the discussion on the 19<sup>th</sup>. We also agreed that if we can't come to a final decision on the budget at the Parish Meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>, we are willing to continue it for a couple of weeks for additional work.

Housekeeping: We accepted with deep regret David Towle's resignation. He will be retiring this summer from the MDI Bio Lab and plans a lot of travelling. He will continue to be the liaison for building maintenance and will also be directing the ad hoc choirs. (One of his trips is to learn how to conduct!) We confirmed that our retreat will be May 8<sup>th</sup>- 9<sup>th</sup>. It will be facilitated by Karen Brammer, our NNED consultant. We still need to find a place. [Does anyone know of a place big enough for twelve that would be available on those dates at no charge? It would be helpful to have access to a kitchen as well.]

It is time for us to complete an evaluation of Leela in order to keep her in good standing with the UUA. The Board and the Committee on Ministry will be working on this soon. We also would like to develop a sort of "check in" process that would be more useful to us than the UUA form. When we figure this out, we'll let everyone know how they can participate. If you have ideas about this, please let the Board or the CoM know.

Finally, the water project will begin as soon as the contractors can get to it. It will not include the removal of the tanks in the Community Room at this stage; that will take another \$3,000, give or take. When they do get removed, we'll have to do some reconfiguration of the room, so realistically it will take more than 3K to allow for some additional carpentry/shelving/storage cabinets that will look way more attractive than what we have now. Out of curiosity, do we have any skilled carpenters, professional or amateur, who might be willing to offer a little sweat equity when we get to it? If you might be able to join in, please let David Towle know.

Submitted by Ruth Eveland,  
from her sketchy notes.  
Next month we should have a Real Secretary!!!

Please note that if you want to attend a Board meeting, we have changed our start time from 7:00 to 6:00 P.M. It's okay to bring your supper!

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## Downeast Concert Collective

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The Downeast Concert Collective is back! We're very excited to bring Joel Mabus, songwriter, serious picker, old-time fiddler, and humorist on Wednesday May 6 at 7:30 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth, ME.

Doors open at 7 PM. Suggested donation is \$15. Free for those under 16.

Joel Mabus may be called a singer-songwriter, but he doesn't sound like one. He's the son of a 1930's old time fiddle champ and a banjo-pickin' farm girl. His performing career began in college during the Vietnam era, where he studied anthropology and literature by day and played coffeehouses by night. One critic writes, "Joel Mabus knows his way around the English language and American culture just as well as he knows his way around a fretboard." Born in 1953 in the southern Illinois town of Belleville, Joel has recorded 19 solo albums of original and traditional music since his recording career started in 1978. The Banjo Monologues, Joel's unique blend of old-time banjo and storytelling, placed #6 in the Folk Radio charts for 2007. He placed #4 in the same charts for 2008 with his latest, Retold — some of his original songs revisited. A one-off in the folk world, Mabus defies any easy pigeon-hole. His palette ranges from mountain banjo to jazz guitar — from sensitive introspection to wicked satire. He's both picker & poet, and from coast to coast over the past 30 years this Midwesterner has brought audiences to their feet, wanting more.

"His songs are tastefully made and witty; timely and memorable. Joel's innovative songs speak of those small moments in life that lodge in our memories: experiences like viewing the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, or using duct tape. He treats his subject gently, with empathy and grace, allowing his mellow voice to color the lyrics just enough to make you feel privileged to have heard his viewpoint. That's a rare talent for ANY performer. Joel Mabus is the type of folk artist

who will be around for a long time to come, and we will all be much richer for the experience" - THE KENT STATE FOLK FESTIVAL

"Joel is one of those quintessentially Midwestern American artists. He lives in Lansing, Michigan, but he has a style we will always associate with Will Rogers or Mark Twain, and a great sense of humor which compliments, rather than contradicts, some very serious material. Joel can reduce us to tears with a song about the Vietnam War Memorial, Touch A Name On The Wall, and then make us laugh hard with a song like Hitler Was A Vegetarian. He has perfected the art of being entertaining without pandering, he teaches without lecturing, and does it all with great style. " - VANCOUVER FOLK FESTIVAL

\* For more information about Joel Mabus visit

<http://www.joelmabus.com/>

\* For more information about the Downeast

Concert Collective visit <http://downeastmusic.org/>

\* For more information about the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth visit

<http://uuellsworth.org/>

The Downeast House Concert Collective

<http://downeastmusic.org/>

PMB 101, 216 High Street, Ellsworth, ME 04605



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## The Stewardship Committee

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The stewardship committee received many responses to the request for comments to be directed to committees or individuals. This one from Jean Martin is an example of the thoughtfulness that went into the responses. Jean has held many positions at UUCE and is currently chair of the music committee. She was responsible along with Peggie Geiger for our Valentine fun-raiser this year. We appreciate you, Jean Martin.

I appreciate Carol Rosinski and Anne Ossana for their dedication to the RE program and kids.

I appreciate Peggie Geiger for doing “too much” for the church in such a quiet efficient way. It will take three or four people to replace her!

I appreciate the volunteers who taught adult classes I attended this year:

Dartha Reid, Anne Dickens, Judith Toland, Peggie Strong, John Thomas and Sarah Huisjen.

I appreciate Wayne Smith for faithfully playing the piano each week for the Sunday services and for all the other things he does for the music program of the church.

I appreciate John Thomas for running the sound system every Sunday during the Sunday service.

I appreciate Dusty Bailey for doing the NUUS letter mailing task for the last seven years.

I appreciate Ruth Eveland for being President of the Board of Trustees during this challenging time in our church.

I appreciate David Towle for being willing to take on the role of choir director for our new “pick up choirs”.

I appreciate Janine Galeski for being willing to lead the hymn singing in the Sunday services.

I appreciate Sarah Huisjen for being a caring Community Minister and faithful member of UUCE.

I appreciate Cynthia Perkins for getting interesting speakers for Sunday services when Leela is not in the pulpit.

I appreciate Dartha Reid for being a loving, dedicated leader of the Caring Committee.

I appreciate Matt Slater for volunteering to be Master of Ceremonies at the Valentine's Day Dinner and Variety Show.

I appreciate and admire Tom Stipe for his courage, faithfulness, and dedication to the church.

I appreciate Steve Votey for all the work he did on the Green Sanctuary.

I appreciate Diana Cate for organizing the adult religious education classes.

I appreciate Marta Riemen for encouraging me to be chair of the Music Committee.

I appreciate Lance Funderburk for faithfully editing our NUUS every month.

I appreciate Leela Sinha for her courage to try new things (even when I don't like it!) and to speak about controversial subjects. Her sermon “From the Ashes” (November 7, 2007) meant a lot to me and to our family. It helped us open a door that had been closed in our family for too long.

I appreciate Evelyn Foster for leading the Stewardship Campaign and also all those who worked with her in leading the Cottage Meetings.

And there are others:

For just doing what needs to be done! Thanks, Matt Slater for repairing our outside bench which was badly crushed by an ice slide from the roof.

Thanks, Anne Funderburk, for having our silverware polished.

Great gratitude to Dusty Bailey and Peggie Geiger for years (is it seven?) of preparing for mail our Monthly NUUS. A new arrangement is being made as both Dusty and Peggie move on to other endeavors.

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## Message from the President

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### *What does it take to be a survivor?*

My family has been reading a fascinating book called The Survivors Club: the secrets and science that could save your life by Ben Sherwood. It is full of tragic and inspirational stories, and also specific information, to help people understand what it takes to be a survivor.

After taking the quiz, it turns out that I am a thinker (well, duh, said my family...) I analyze; I use both book and street smarts; I use common sense and try to look at things from new angles. I am focused and practical. I am good at turning ideas into action.

There are four other types of survivors: connectors, realists, fighters, and believers. All have their strengths and abilities. One of the major points the author makes is that anyone can be a survivor - you just need to know how you approach things and what you have to work with to get past the problem.

Sherwood summarizes the critical elements into five primary lessons. First, "one bite at a time." Take it step by step. Second, "the illusion of isolation." Preserve your sense of attachment to the world and others. Third, "the power of purpose." Keep in mind the calling of each of us to something greater than oneself. Fourth, "strength in numbers." If we band together we can make it more likely we can get past a problem. And, fifth, "do not waste a breath." Things will go wrong, don't dwell on those possibilities - keep your mind open and know your strengths.

And then I began to wonder about our congregation. As a whole, what kind of survivor are we? When we did the church profile for the Search Committee three years ago, the "survivor" theme was one of the major ways we used to identify ourselves collectively. We have almost collapsed several times, but have always managed to band together and emerge stronger for the experience.

I think that over our 144 years (or 174, depending on how you count) we have exemplified all the first four lessons identified in the book. When we have needed to overcome, we have worked our way through by taking a series of little steps. We have clearly drawn on our attachments to our communities, both local and to the denomination. We have kept in mind the larger vision

we have to offer to the world we serve. And, we have done it by sticking together.

So, now we face another Big Challenge. How will we approach it? Can we remember the lessons we have learned and enacted before? And, most importantly, will we tackle this confidently, drawing on all our skills, believing that together we can emerge stronger as a result? I truly hope so.

***"One more step, we will take one more step..."***

It's time for my monthly exhortation to get more people to contribute leaves to our personal ministry tree. More leaves have shown up, and I thank everyone who has pushed past that need-for-perfection-for-the-ages roadblock to get their commitment on paper.

*Have you looked at the diversity of the statements? It's wonderful. And I know there is much more out there.*

We are hoping to have a nicely filled-out tree by May 15<sup>th</sup>, when the other churches involved in the Planning For Growth team come to Ellsworth. It would be encouraging to show others, both those from other congregations and those in our community who use our building, who we are in all our glory.

We are still hoping to be able to use this process to develop a ministry/mission statement for the church as a whole. It would work better if more individuals have been through it first. I'll run a few more sessions, after church and whenever people want. Please consider joining in.

Yours in ministry,  
Ruth Eveland.



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## **Volunteer Positions Available**

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**Membership Committee-** (three members needed)

**In charge of Sunday morning hospitality, church directory, events for new members**

**Stewardship Committee-** (two new members needed)

**To help plan and organize the 2010-11 canvass.**

**Landscape and Gardening-**(several persons needed who are interested in the overall design and care of our grounds) - the spring cleanup is already being planned. Arrangements need to be made for plantings and the creation of a memorial area.

**There is also need for earth loving worker types who are willing to dig, weed and water.**

**Care Committee-** (one co-chair needed and two new members)

**committee supports the ministry to those in congregation with special occasions or needs.**

**History-** (anyone with a special interest in preserving the records and history of UUCE to work with our historian, Wayne Smith.

**Summer Yard Sale-** (organizers and many workers) a task force to coordinate and run the annual yard sale often held in July

*There are always new ways to get involved and get to know others while doing the things that need to be done.*

**Please contact anyone on the leadership committee: Marta Reiman, Peggie Geiger, Kay Wilkins, Sue/Bill Clark or Evelyn Foster**

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## **The Giving Corner**

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The cornerstone of the 2009-10 stewardship campaign was the thirteen cottage meetings held throughout the area.

The canvass resulted in 80 pledges and a total of \$86,390.

A special thank you goes to those who hosted and the facilitators who led the sessions: Kay Wilkins, Diana Cate, Don Martin, Jean Martin, Evelyn Foster, Peter Andersen, Stefanie Alley, Martha Dickenson, Peggie Geiger, Jon Geiger, Kathy Moulton-Applewhite, Jim Applewhite, Dartha Reid, Paul Reid, Margery Forbes, Wayne Smith, Cynthia Perkins, Rev. Sara Hayman-Huisjen, Judith Toland, Karen Wigglesworth, Judy Rothrock, David Towle and Betty Massie.

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## **Memorial Day Choir**

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All who love to sing are invited to participate in a Sunday-After-Memorial-Day Choir at UUCE. We will rehearse 9-10 am in the sanctuary on May 17, May 24, and May 31 and sing during the May 31st service. If you have enjoyed listening to the choir, why not join in!

We will prepare two lovely pieces, one of which has an exciting gospel-like section. Practice CDs will be provided. Please contact David Towle ([dtowle@mdibl.org](mailto:dtowle@mdibl.org), 460-8881) for further information.

Remember, if you can talk you can sing!

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## Congregational Survey

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

The Music Committee at UUCE would like to get congregational feedback about the quality and status of our music program so we can develop goals as we move into the next church year.

Using a scale of 1 through 5 with 1 being of no importance and 5 being of utmost importance, please circle the number which best reflects your answer.

1. How important is music to your worship experience?  
1 2 3 4 5

2. Do you generally like the hymns we sing?  
(1= not at all, 5= always)  
1 2 3 4 5

3. Do you enjoy learning new hymns from the teal hymnal (Singing the Journey)?  
1 2 3 4 5

4. How important is it to you that the hymns be related to the worship topic?  
1 2 3 4 5

5. Do you think a song leader amplified by a microphone during hymns is helpful for the congregation?  
1 2 3 4 5

6. Have you enjoyed the "pick up choirs" led by David Towle in December, February, and April?  
1 2 3 4 5

7. What musical styles would you like to see in the worship service? Circle any that apply and make other suggestions:  
Classical, Popular, World Music, Folk,  
other \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you like singing congregational rounds?  
1 2 3 4 5

9. Do you like to have the congregation seated and quiet for the prelude? Yes/No  
for the Postlude? Yes/No

10. In October, we arranged to have Mimi Bornstein at UUCE for a Saturday afternoon Round Table Discussion about the UUCE Music Program, a Music Concert Saturday evening, and a special all music program for the Sunday Worship Service.

If you had an opportunity to attend any of those special events, please share your thoughts:  
1 2 3 4 5

11. Did you enjoy the Valentine's Dinner and Variety Show?  
1 2 3 4 5

12. Would you support other church music activities such as a Concert Series or our Coffee House/Open Mike that has recently restarted?  
1 2 3 4 5

13. If you have already tried the "Sacred Singing Circle" that was instituted this year, how would you rate your experience?  
1 2 3 4 5

14. Are your church musical needs being met?  
1 2 3 4 5  
If not, please explain

15. What are your top 5 favorite hymns?

16. I am interested in being part of the UUCE music program.

Please circle all that apply.

Pick-Up Choir; Vocal Soloist (What vocal part do you sing?) SATB

Substitute Pianist; Organist; Instrumentalist (What musical instrument do you play?) \_\_\_\_\_; UUQ; Open Mike/Coffee House; Music Committee Member; Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form to the church or to one of the committee members.

Thank you from the Music Committee:

Jean Martin, Margery Forbes (Honorary), David Towle, Johanna Stacy, Dusty Bailey, Wayne Smith

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## Treasurer's Corner

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The next three months will be challenging financially. We have \$24,400 in pledges outstanding and that is where we should be. However, I am estimating that we could have a shortfall as high as \$10,000 which would be \$6,000 above what we had predicted in the budget. If you deduct the \$10,000 from the \$24,400, we would have \$14,000 in pledge receipts to work with. So that I can project a more accurate cash flow, it is important to get in touch with me if you are unable to complete your pledge for the 2008 – 2009 church year. It is understandable, given the state of the economy, that some may not be able to meet their pledge. Please drop me a note, email me at [jzmartin2@myfairpoint.net](mailto:jzmartin2@myfairpoint.net) or call me at 664-0309. The board has been working on a budget for the 2009 – 2010 church year. Despite an excellent canvass resulting in a total of \$86,390, we are still left with the challenge to find a way to balance the budget. It is difficult with only 79 pledging units to support our current payroll of \$89,945 as well as our general operating expenses. The balance of our income will be coming from sources that we have little control over such as fund raising activities, Sunday collection plate, and rentals. I have to be honest, this is making me nervous. The congregation is going to have to make some difficult decisions as to what we want and what we can afford. If you have any questions, I encourage you to call me. It is not easy to be the treasurer during these difficult times.

Don Martin  
Treasurer

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## News About Our NUUS

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How to get the NUUS on your computer

Some folks believe that getting the UU newsletter on line means that someone will email the NUUS Letter to them. Not true. The newsletter will not be emailed. To receive the newsletter, follow these steps:

1. Go online and go to the UU church web site: [www.uuellsworth.org](http://www.uuellsworth.org)
2. Look in the left margin of the web site for the link that says 'newsletter' and click on it.
3. A series of dates will come up: March 09, Feb. 09, Jan. 09, etc. Click on the date that you want, and that newsletter will come up.
4. You can now read the newsletter on your screen, or if you prefer you can print it. You have the option of printing just one page, or several pages, or printing the entire newsletter. Just follow the print directions.

Dusty Bailey is no longer working with the NUUS Letter. All emails regarding the NUUS Letter including information about getting the NUUS from the church web site instead of regular mail should go to our office administrator, Caitlin Tunney. Her email is [caitlin@uuellsworth.org](mailto:caitlin@uuellsworth.org). Also, please CC the email to Peggge Geiger at [peggiegeiger@hotmail.com](mailto:peggiegeiger@hotmail.com) because she helps organize the mailing list. If you need to call Caitlin at church, her working hours are 1 to 5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

## Personnel

### Minister

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### President of the Board

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### Director of Religious Education and Exploration

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**"Where Are They Now?"** is a report and stories of laid off workers and how they are coping in a changing and declining economy. Most of the formerly unionized workers are now in lower paying and non-union jobs, if they have one at all. Almost 3,500 jobs in just 13 large companies have been lost already in this decade, not to mention probably thousands of others in smaller businesses and companies. To find out how to support laid off workers and to generate more jobs in Eastern Maine, contact Food AND Medicine, 989-5860 or [www.foodandmedicine.org](http://www.foodandmedicine.org).

## Dear UU Sangha,

I want to thank you for being there for me during the past two weeks after my hip replacement surgery. What a nurturing experience it was for me to receive your visits in the hospital, your cards, telephone calls and most of all the wonderful gift of your warm presence in the form of the "travelling vest". The idea of buying Ruth's beautiful creation at the last auction and setting it up as both a metaphor and a functional gift representing your warmth and caring spirit is just one of those blessings that make you as a congregation very special. I was very touched to have received it and I wear it as I sit in front of my fire and think of all of you out there supporting me. Today is my first day out of the house. I came to the library to catch up on my email and I hope very soon to be able to return to church. My thoughts are with you. Lotuses to all of you Buddha's to be.

Judith Toland

**"The Working Waterfront"** is still a free monthly newspaper, although many other papers are cutting back or going out of business. Published by the Island Institute, the latest edition includes front page articles on a cooperative fish processing plant in Port Clyde and legislation affecting the future of the fishing industry. There's news of many of Maine's islands, from southern Maine to the Canadian border. For a copy, call 594-9209 or [www.islandinstitute.org](http://www.islandinstitute.org).

With the scandal over inhumane treatment of chickens at egg factory farms in Maine, it's nice to know you can get a **"Cruelty-Free Shopping Guide"** listing a lot of mostly personal care products that do not use animal testing and, in many cases, any animal ingredients. It's from PETA and is available from local contact Steve Kouzounas in Saco, 282-1214.