



LIGHTING THE WAY FORWARD

May 29, 2025

*The lady slipper
Flowering pink in shadows
Rare beauty of love
Rising above the darkness
Perfect fit worn by the heart
Heidi Sands*



Photo by Al Adams

“Music Sunday”

Worship Service: June 1, 2025, 10 a.m.

Led by: FPUU Music Ministry

Religious Exploration welcomes children ages 4-13.

Come in person or click below to join the service!

<https://uukennebunk.org/Sunday-Service-Access>

Or by cell phone (audio only) 929-205-6099, meeting ID 734 887 010,
Password:02448

upcoming EVENTS

- Fri. May 30, 6 p.m. Church Potluck and Percussion Circle: see poster
- Sun. June 1, after church, First Blueberry Festival meeting
- Sat. June 7, 11 a.m. Memorial Service for Sally Keene
- Sun. June 8, 9 a.m., Annual Congregational Meeting in person & online
- Sun. June 8, 10 a.m. Flower Sunday

This Sunday

Join us this Sunday for our annual Music Sunday. This year our theme is: **Together in Music: Songs of Protest, Resilience, and Hope**, where First Parish musicians and singers will be offering songs that have moved them, and helped people throughout time make sense of, resist, and hope during difficult times. From resistance music during World War II, to the anti-war anthems of the 1960s, and on to today's contemporary voices using online platforms to speak truth to power — this service invites us into a shared space of music-making, reflection, purpose, and connection. Music from, Chris Staknys, Margaret Jones, Deirdre Drennen, Chris Wells, Brian Kaufman, Erik Howell, Merideth Norris, Rich Gaito, Rev. Tori, and the First Parish Choir.



At the end of worship last Sunday, Mary Gelfand introduced us to a song that was sung at the end of every worship service at her old church—First UU Church of New Orleans. The lyrics of this song were one of the things that drew her to Unitarian Universalism. After the service, several people asked for the lyrics. So here they are. She has looked, but does not know who wrote these words. This is sung to the tune of 'Finlandia.'

*May I who live be true unto my being.
One in my thoughts, my words and every deed.
I was born free. An ever-changing river
Is what I am, and neighbor so are you.
We have the power, through laughter, love and tears,
To face our fears, and live forever free.*

Spring Fling Potluck – All Ages!!

Celebrating & Giving Thanks for Community

Friday, May 30, 2025

6:00-7:30ish p.m.

Parish Hall

6:00– Put food on buffet tables and find a seat/s. And maybe sit with someone you don't know!

6:15 - Eat!!

6:45 – Easy “Ice breakers” in a big circle

7:00 or so - **Percussion circle** for all ages

(Optional -bring drums, rattles, tambourines; or you can make your own percussion – an instruction handout is by the sign-up sheet.) No experience needed, and hand clapping is also percussion! We will explore different rhythms and play together!

* * * * *

Please RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall

NOTE: If you need a ride, please indicate that when you RSVP!

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Potluck contribution Ideally your food contribution could feed 6 people. (Please note if your contribution is gluten free or contains any kind of nuts or peppers)

- **Main dishes** (casserole, quiche, soup, store bought pizza, other). Please bring it hot and ready to serve.
- **Salad, or other side dishes** (veggies, quinoa, rice).
- **Desserts**

Optional – In the spirit of giving thanks, consider bringing a non-perishable item or two for the local food bank!!

We look forward to seeing you on Friday, MAY 30!!

Membership Committee and helpers!!

Blueberry Festival and Craft Fair

First Meeting

Join those who want to make this year's Blueberry bash a great success right after church, **June 1, in the church Library**. This is the first meeting of the Blueberry Festival and Craft Fair 2025 team. If you want to coordinate any part of the Festival this is the time to join the team. All the current coordinators need assistants to learn the ropes. Here are the jobs: Vendors, Blueberry Baking, Craft Booth, Jewelry, Crab Rolls, Hotdogs, Vegan Wraps, Supplies, Set-Up, Clean-Up, Compost/Trash/Recycling, Music, Advertising, Raffle, FPUU Info Booth. Come to the meeting and find out more. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and a satisfying day that's lots of fun.



Jewelry needed for the Treasure Chest table at the Blueberry Festival/Craft Fair! Please put in a bag or box, label it "Jewelry for Blueberry Fair" and drop it off at the Church Office (Monday-Friday 9-12) or bring it on a Sunday. Questions? Contact Linda Thompson, in Church Directory. Many thanks!

Horizon Time

Excerpts from Rev. Tori
Rosati's sermon May 18



When No Thing Works, A Zen and Indigenous Perspective on Resilience, Shared Purpose, and Leadership in the Timeplace of Collapse, by Norma Wong

... This title felt so apt in those days following the election, and it still does as the months have unfolded—as we find ourselves coming up against harm upon harm, injustice upon injustice—when it feels like nothing is working.

This month, we are exploring the practice of imagination. How we might expand our minds, hearts, and spirits beyond what is right in front of us. ... And this feels like a sacred and holy invitation in a world when literally nothing seems to be working. ...

So how can we harness the power of imagination in life-giving ways that bring our world alive and help us live into the promise of a tomorrow rooted in values of love, cooperation, and mutual care toward those future generations?

...

Wong's approach is deeply rooted, grounded in indigenous perspective and worldview. ... "You had a notion of rootedness deeply in the past ... and a sense of responsibility to a future so far off that you do not yet have numbers and names for the years and people that will follow. I call this the horizon story."

The horizon is ... not a physical boundary but a visual one, shaped by the curvature of the Earth. ... As a point of orientation, it tells us there's always more bending out from our line of sight. ...

In this way, the horizon view is not wishful thinking, nor is it empty hope or mere optimism—... it is a point of orientation that moves with us. It's not something to glance at when we need a reminder that things might get better. Instead, we keep it there and let our imaginations fill the space as we navigate. ...

Here, imagination becomes tangible, it connects this moment we are in right now across the horizon to some future place we can orient toward—that influences our relationships, our choices, and our ways of living in the world right now. And this is the work of community. ...

This morning's beautiful welcoming of 16 new members to this church is a testament to that. In this ritual, all of you who have joined this community are gathering into something larger than yourselves—joining in a collective, a group of mutual care, aid, and purpose that promises to help one other and the wider world imagine the future together—to live in the horizon of time connecting everyone here to those who have signed [our Membership] Book in the past and those who are yet to come. Here, we are all called out of our individual lives and toward something we can't fully see. ...



Photo by Paul Beach

New members: (Standing with Rev. Tori, Mary Gelfand), (front left) Membership Chair Jim Thompson, (from left to right) Gray Hirshfield, Dean Thomas, Dick Russell, (presenting flowers) Joan Wuerthner, (behind Rev. Tori and to right) David Rychlik, Kate Howell, Erik Howell, Bligh Reynolds, Patricia Hatch, Betsy Kingsley, David Terriciano, Noah Dorius. Not pictured: Karen Badger, Ann Funicello, Mark Gallup, Anita Hall, Tom Veronesi

“Can we memorize,” Rev. Soto said in our reading, “the compass points of the day yet to come: the truth, the love, the fire, the endless yes of the horizon.”

So I invite us to live toward these compass points of the horizon—those endless yeses—each a choice, a daydream, a commitment to the future. To draw on this practice in our activism, our community, and our lives—especially when nothing works, no matter how hard we try.

To take a deep breath, center in our bodies, and find that horizon point—... A point that we may or may not see in our own lifetimes, but one that our descendants need us to imagine now. Because every good thing in our lives right now—because there are still so many good things—is the product of an ancestor imagining it for us.

Let us live, dear ones, in horizon time – tell our horizon story together—to not just transport or distract us, but root us deeply in life—uncovering and excavating the magic possibilities in every moment, past, present, and all those yet to come.



Flower Festival Sunday June 8th

First created in Prague in 1923 by Unitarian minister Norbert Čapek, the Flower Ceremony is one of Unitarian Universalism's most beloved and enduring traditions—a sacred ritual of giving and receiving, of unity, resistance, and love. Born out of Čapek's

commitment to a free and inclusive faith during a time of rising oppression, it celebrates life and affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every person. In this ritual, each of us brings a flower from home to contribute to a shared bouquet, symbolizing a community made vibrant by the unique gifts of all its members. At the end of the service, we each take home a different flower, representing the blessings we receive from one another.

Social Justice Network



The Legislature is winding down, but MUUSAN is Just Getting Started!

Everyone is welcome to [register](#) for MUUSAN's network meeting, being held on Zoom this Saturday, May 31, 10 - 11:30 am. We'll recap the legislative session, hear updates from our liaisons about their work with partner organizations, and reflect together on our new communication system. What worked well for you? What could be improved? We'll also unveil a new tool to help MUUSAN better track and celebrate the vital work each of you does.

Immigrant Protection

On Wednesday, May 28th, the Maine Legislature Judiciary Committee will vote on whether to advance two critically-needed pieces of legislation to safeguard our public safety resources from being diverted to further the federal government's mass deportation agenda.

- [LD 1259](#) would prohibit [formal agreements](#) between state and local law enforcement and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

- [LD 1971](#) would fill crucial gaps by prohibiting other types of activities that ultimately lead to people being handed over to immigration officers via state resources.

Call to Action: Contact your Maine state representative and senator to urge them to support LD 1259 and LD 1971. If your legislator is not on the Judiciary Committee, write asking for their support and to pass your email on to the committee.

Sample text: My name is _____ of Town. I urge you to support LD 1259 and LD 1971 so that Maine's limited taxpayer dollars and public safety resources aren't spent to carry out the federal administration's cruel mass deportation agenda. (Put in your own words.)

Include any personal experience you have with immigrants. Again, I urge you to support LD 1259 and LD 1971.

Housing

[Housing Justice Maine](#) will be hosting a housing lobby day Thursday, May 29, beginning at 8:30 a.m. They focus on persuading legislators to support our priority bills: the Eviction Prevention Program, Emergency Shelter Homeless Assistance Program, and Rent Stabilization for Manufactured Housing Communities. Contact [Nyawal Lia](#) at nyawal@mainepeoplesalliance.org even if you cannot attend on Thursday, but you'd like to take action on this issue!

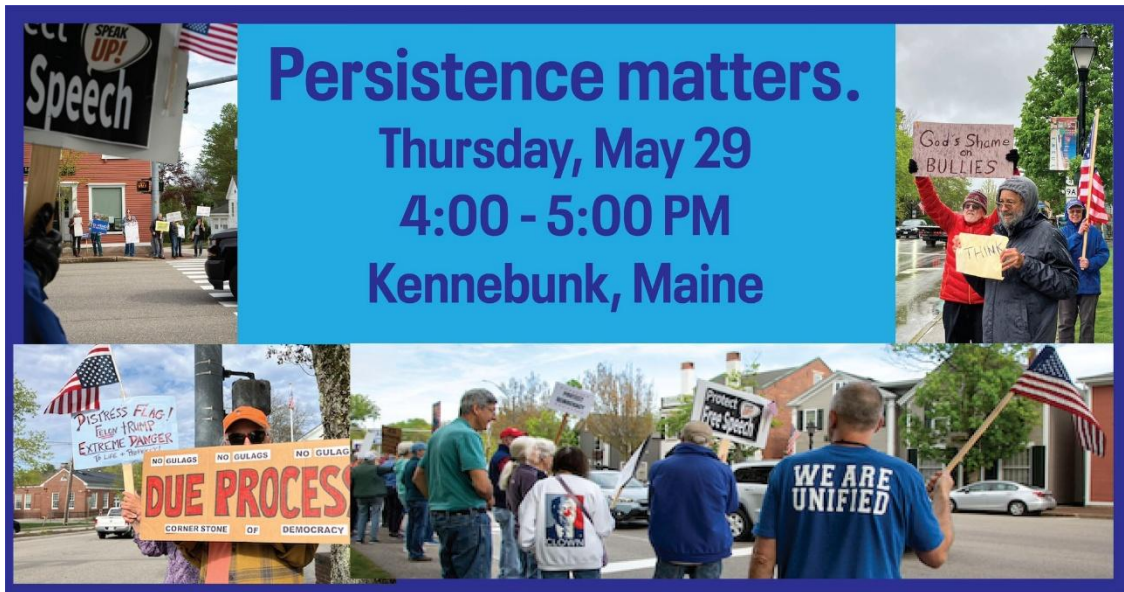
MUUSAN Representatives Jerry David and Jeanine Coy



SIDE WITH LOVE

**On Main Street in
Kennebunk every Thursday**

Locals gather to demonstrate their concerns about state and national issues every Thursday from 4 - 5 p.m. on the sidewalks of upper Main St. Kennebunk. *Side with Love* posters are available in the church side entrance to use for demonstrations. Those who wish may hold them on the church steps together to broadcast our values centered on love.



Keep Wells Police Local
SATURDAY | May 31 | 1-2 PM
Wells Public Safety Building

*I.C.E. has no place in Wells or anywhere in
Maine. Join us in saying THANK YOU FOR
THE PAUSE. Next step is to WITHDRAW.*

Organized by Democracy in Action



A letter from Merideth

Trial is finally over

Dear Congregation,

As many of you know, after over 2.5 years of holding our breath after the Federal government came after Merideth [Dr. Merideth Norris], put her through a trial and ended her medical career, we finally got a ray of hope on May 15th when Judge Nancy Torresen made the decision that Merideth would serve probation and pay fines, but spend no time in prison.

Throughout this traumatic nightmare, the church community has been unwavering in its support and love and has truly been a lifeline in so many ways. We are humbled and amazed at how many people have shown up for our family and will always be so grateful.

Love to all of you!
Merideth and Brian

P.S. from one of the many from FPUU who attended:

Many people spoke at the hearing, voicing deep appreciation for Merideth as a teacher, physician, volunteer, wife, and mother. Judge Torresen was the last to speak. It was obvious she appreciated Merideth for the tireless work she has done both as a physician and community volunteer. She reviewed the findings of the trial, also joking that if she had sent Merideth to prison, Merideth would have helped other incarcerated women and might have ended up taking over the management. She added that the 600 hours Merideth must spend doing community work (compared with the amount she already does) will amount to a break!



Sunday Morning Bookcase

- *The Serviceberry*, Robin Wall Kimmerer
- *Revive Us Again: Vision and Action in Moral Organizing*, Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II and Rev. Dr. Rick Lowery
- *Inciting Joy*, Ross Gay
- *Book of Delights*, Ross G
- *When No thing Works: A Zen and Indigenous Perspective on Resilience, Shared Purpose, and Leadership in the Timeplace of Collapse*, Norma Wong

What's happening for our children?

Click on this link to learn more about our monthly Religious Exploration highlights.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/10xocLKTAAsQuI3mTysl2uYfh-xNljj_a7YjG0PQ20R14/edit?usp=sharing

For more information on our Religious Education program, contact our office administrator, Allison at (207) 985-3700 or email at uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com and she will connect you with the team.

Community Events:

CLOTHING SWAP

Sunday, June 1 10:00-12:00



@ THE NEW SCHOOL

38 York St. Kennebunk

Pack a suitcase with clean gently used clothing and accessories.

Bring your suitcase and trade for a new wardrobe!

\$5 suggested entry donation

Money raised will benefit The Planeteers of Southern Maine

RESTORE AND REPLANT ROGERS POND PARK!

**Invasive plants are taking over — and we need
YOUR help to fight back!**

**Saturday,
14 June**

Rogers Pond Park
49 Water St.
Kennebunk

**1:00 pm -
4:00 pm**

- Brief volunteer training at 1:00 by arborist Steven Brook
- Dig and clear invasives.
- Replant with native plants!
- Tools provided (bring your own work gloves and loppers if possible).
- Earn volunteer hours and make a real difference for local wildlife!

Event hosts:

**Kennebunk Conservation Commission and The Planeteers of
Southern Maine.**

**CLICK HERE OR SCAN
FOR MORE
INFORMATION AND
VOLUNTEER SIGN UP**

<http://bit.ly/rogerspond>



What's up in June

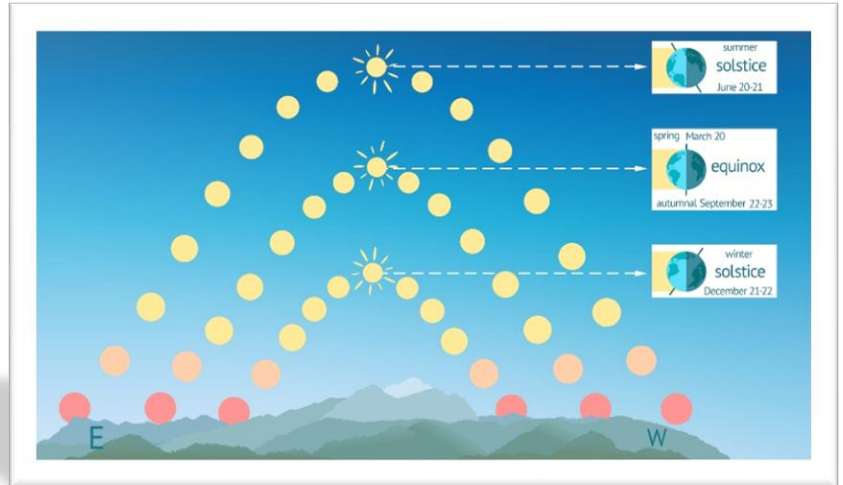
Bernie Reim

The month of June is named after the Roman goddess Juno, the god of marriage and childbirth and the wife of Jupiter, king of the gods. June always marks the beginning of summer for us in the northern hemisphere. This year that will happen Friday, June 20 at 10:42 p.m.

That is the highest point that the sun will reach for the year, about 68 degrees high in our sky at high noon. By contrast, it is only 24 degrees high on the winter solstice, December 21.

Try to get out under the warmer and hopefully drier skies this month to enjoy and appreciate the many celestial events always taking place above us and to attain a larger cosmic perspective of where we really are in space and how we and everything else is always changing and in constant motion from the subatomic scale right up to every single celestial object in the entire universe. ...

See Bernie's full column in the Maine Sunday Telegram at the beginning of each month.



Our members now in rehabilitation enjoy having people call or visit

Joan Phipps, after experiencing another fall, is now undergoing rehabilitation at Summer Commons, 21 June St. Sanford, Maine 04073. She has a phone in her room: 207-206-1953. She would love to have her friends from First Parish call or visit. The Commons is near (SMHC Sanford, formally Goodall Hospital).

Bob Lown is currently in Room 41 of The Edgewood Center, 928 South St., Portsmouth NH. His mobility is limited but he is in good spirits and would love visitors. The best way is to just drop in any morning between 9-11. Or you can send a letter or card to the above address.

Important: Check Rev. Tori's Email Address!

Please take a moment to ensure you have the correct email saved for Rev. Tori Rosati: uukennebunkminister@gmail.com Even small differences mean your message won't reach her.

If you've emailed Rev. Tori and haven't received a response, please double-check the email address in your contact list as it may be incorrect.

For help updating your contacts, Allison Lazos or Chris Wells are available to assist. And as a reminder, Rev. Tori will never send emails requesting gift cards or money—if something seems suspicious, it probably is.

Office Hours

The Office is open Monday-Friday 9a.m.- 12 p.m. Rev. Tori's office hours are mostly Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the church.

Due to other obligations her schedule may change. Please email the office to set a time if you wish to speak with her.

One of the important duties of a minister is pastoral care for those in need. Our minister, Tori Rosati, is available to any congregation in need. Tori can best be reached at uukennebunkminister@gmail.com. For pastoral emergencies, please contact Rev. Tori on her cell phone.

First Parish UU Church Kennebunk

JUNE 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Music Sunday 10 a.m. Worship Service led by FPUU Music Ministry	2	3 5:15 p.m. Sangha 6 p.m. Board Retreat 7 p.m. Properties	4 2 p.m. Worship Committee Retreat	5 3:30 p.m. Choir	6	7 11 a.m. Sally Keene Memorial Service
8 Flower Sunday 9 a.m. Annual Meeting 10 a.m. Worship Service led Rev. Tori "Among the Wildflowers"	9	10 10 a.m. Small Group Ministry 10 a.m. Membership Committee 6:30 p.m. Men's Open Group	11 5:30 p.m. Board of Directors	12 3:30 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m. Small Group Ministry	13 6:30 p.m. Song Swop	14
15 10 a.m. Worship Service led Rev. Tori "Love Liberates"	16	17 5:15 p.m. Sangha	18 LAST REGULAR NEWSLETTER	19 JUNETEENTH Office Closed 3:30 p.m. Choir	20	21
22 10 a.m. Worship Service led by Bernie Reim	23 Summer Hours Office Closed	24 9-12 Office Open 5:15 p.m. Sangha 6:30 p.m. Men's Open Group	25	26 9-12 Office Open 3:30 p.m. Choir SUMMER NEWSLETTER	27	28
29 10 a.m. Worship Service led by Rev. Al Boyce	30 10 a.m. RE Team					