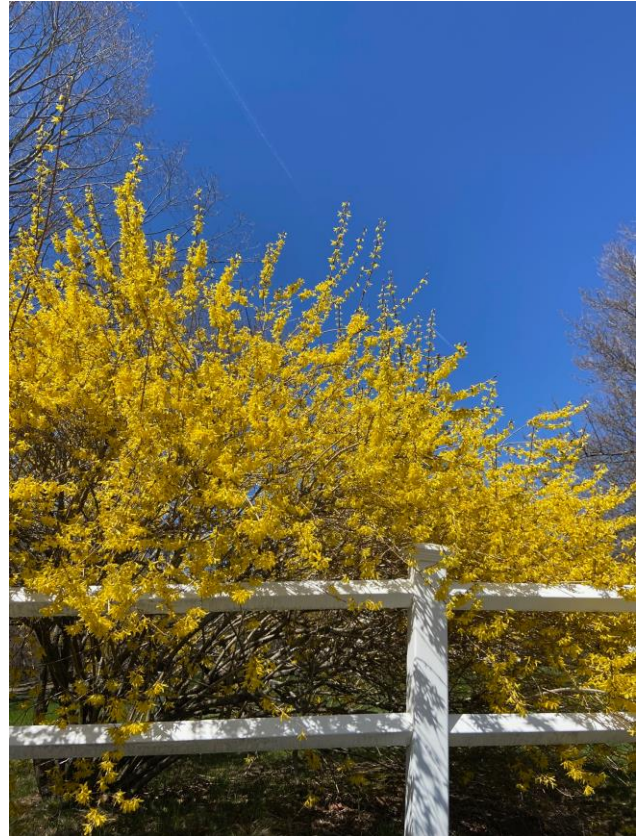




**April 25, 2024**

*Nature's first green is gold,  
Her hardest hue to hold.  
Her early leaf's a flower;  
But only so an hour.  
Then leaf subsides to leaf.  
So Eden sank to grief,  
So dawn goes down to day.  
Nothing gold can stay.*

Robert Frost



## **“Our Connection to Nature”**

Worship Service May 5, 2024, 10 a.m.

Worship Leader: Marylyn Wentworth

### **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 3, 5:30 p.m. Women's NPR Potluck
- Fri. May 3, 7-9 p.m. SongSwop, in person and online
- Sat. May 4, 12:45 p.m. We march in Kennebunk's May Day Parade
- Fri. May 10, 7 p.m. Concert: violinist Patrick Doane & pianist Andrius Žlabys
- Sat. May 18, Rummage sale (Fri. set-up, Sun. clean-up)
- Fri. May 31st, Art Reflection (see details below)

## May Day Parade this Saturday in Kennebunk

Join in the fun this Saturday, May 5, on Main St. at 1:30 p.m. to watch the May Day Parade, or even better meet at 12:45 p.m. at the Gazebo in the park at Main and Water streets, to walk with others from First Parish in the parade—which is under a mile.

Our group will be headed up by two volunteers carrying our large FPUU banner, and our "Blueberry Man," Ian Durham. We have signs for each group: Choir, Sangha, Women's Group, Men's Group, Song Swop, etc.

Enter your name on the Parade Sign Up sheet on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall or contact us. Please make sure your group is represented, and wear something colorful or bright—this is a great opportunity to show the community who we are!

Linda & Jim Thompson  
Parade Committee members



*Pictures from May Day 2023*



# First Parish Concert features violin and piano

Two exceptional musicians will perform at First Parish UU Church of Kennebunk on Friday, May 10th at 7 p.m. Violinist Dr. Patrick Doane and pianist Andrius Žlabys will perform their own original works alongside the music of Schumann and Prokofiev.

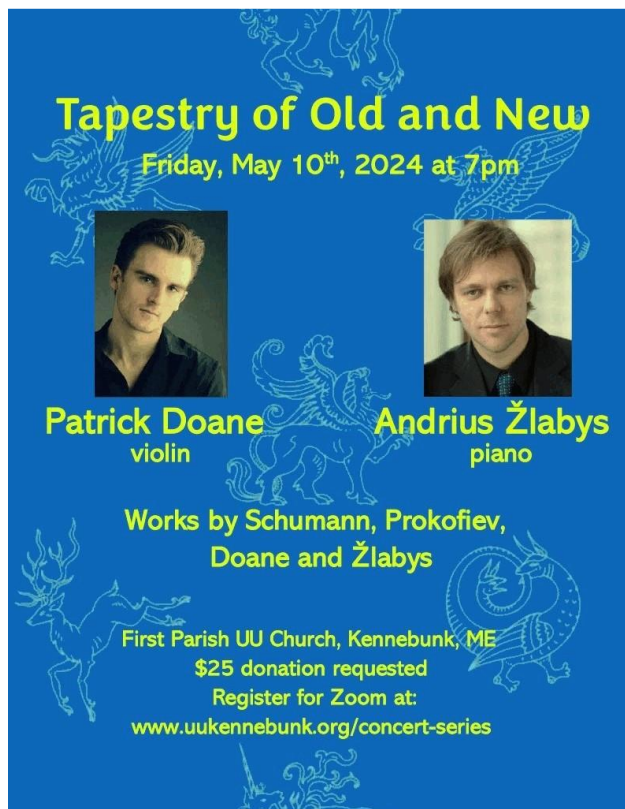
Patrick is a Kennebunk native who has served as concertmaster and soloist with numerous orchestras and has performed many recitals throughout the Northeast. He regularly plays with the New Haven, Hartford, and Harrisburg Symphony Orchestras. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Juilliard, and recently received his Doctorate degree from The Graduate Center CUNY in New York City. The New York Times described him as a

compelling violinist, and The New Haven Independent writes, "His virtuosic playing and obvious command of his instrument was always in service of grand, thrilling musical gestures." Patrick began violin studies at age 6 at River Tree Arts in Kennebunk and he is delighted to be returning home to Maine for this concert.

Andrius is a Grammy-nominated artist who has received international acclaim for his appearances with many of the world's leading orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, and Rotterdam Symphony. He is a featured soloist on the 2013 album "Between Two Waves," released on ECM in collaboration with Gidon Kremer and Kremerata Baltica. Born in

Lithuania and trained at the Curtis Institute of Music, Andrius was just 18 years old when the Chicago Tribune wrote: "Pianist-composer Andrius Žlabys is one of the most gifted young keyboard artists to emerge in years."

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the concert will begin at 7 p.m. A \$25 donation will be accepted at the door. To view the concert via Zoom, please register at: [www.uukennebunk.org/concert-series](http://www.uukennebunk.org/concert-series)





Soul Matters Sharing Circle is a collective that brings together UU congregations across the denomination and provides worship, music, adult faith

formation, and children's religious education resources through monthly themes so that the whole congregation across the lifespan is reflecting on the same larger themes each month. We are exploring some of their resources this month with the theme of Creativity.

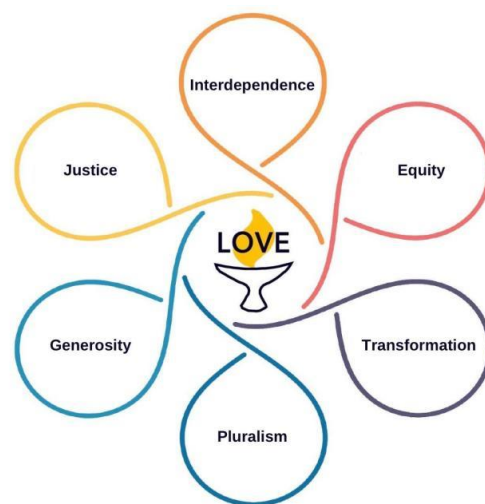
Below are a few of the ways we will be engaging in May:

- May 12th - Creativity-Themed Worship Service  
Join us for a fun, multigenerational service that will draw out the creative spirit in us all. We will be making some art, sharing it with each other and exploring the creative impulse in us all.
- May 31st 10:00am - Art Reflection Group  
Join Rev. Tori for some spiritual reflection using a piece of artwork as a focal point. This will be a time for individual contemplation and group sharing and offer a spiritual practice to take with us into our days that draws on the creative spirit in our midst.

## Article II Overview and Discussion

**May 22<sup>nd</sup> (on zoom) 7:00pm**

Unitarian Universalism is a living tradition. As such, over time our guiding principles are intended to grow and change. This process is currently happening with proposed amendments to Article II of the UUA Bylaws that govern our Principles and Purposes. This work will culminate at General Assembly this June as delegates from congregations across the denomination will cast their final vote on these changes that move us from, among other things, the 7 Principles toward 6 Values with Love at the Center. Join Rev. Tori for an overview of our journey to this moment, and a chance to reflect and discuss together what will guide our faith into the future. This gathering will take place on zoom.



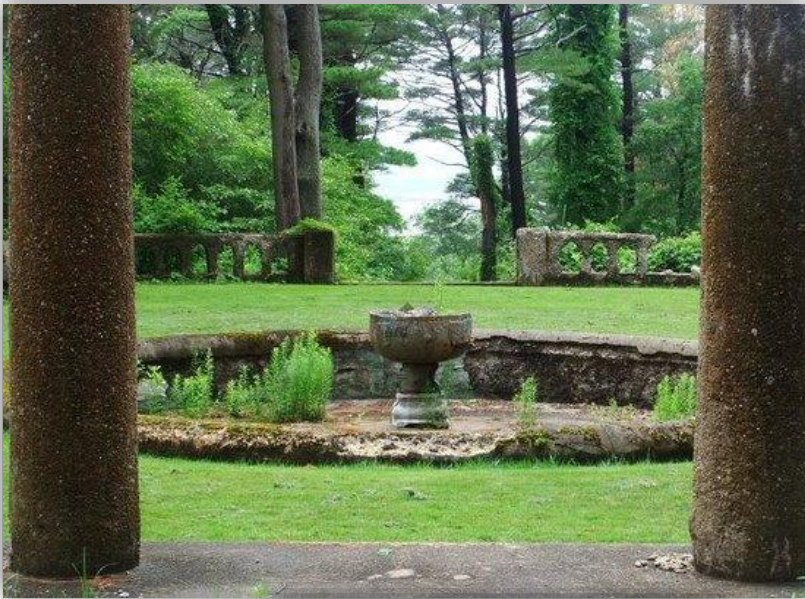


# Fabulous FPUU online Auction

Our Auction has been open for 5 days and continues until May 11. We have 105 items that are very interesting and varied! Many are on display in the Parish Hall. Remember to let your friends, family and co-workers know about the auction as our success depends on bidders throughout the community.

Sign in at: <https://www.charityauctionstoday.com/bid/2024UUAuction>

A private tour of the Crane Estate, a gorgeous crazy quilt with embroidery, tennis lessons, a professional guitar, among so many more items!





Items can be brought to the church starting May 12th.

There are some things that we do not want:

- shoes
- computers
- moldy/mildew smelling clothes or books
- magazines
- text books
- mattresses/box springs

Please check any electric items before you bring them to make sure they work.

Set-up and pricing Friday, May 17th 10:00 a.m. until done

Saturday, May 18th 8-11 a.m.

Sunday, May 19th 8-10:30 a.m.

If you are interested in helping at the sale, please contact:  
Jacky at [jpkrf@roadrunner.com](mailto:jpkrf@roadrunner.com) or sign up in the Parish Hall



# How the grand piano arrived at First Parish

Jaylene Summers and Rich Gaito recently dedicated the grand piano, which they gave to First Parish in 2016, in loving memory of their parents, Helen & Al Gaito and Helene & J. L. Summers.

"My love of pianos and music started early for me, when at seven I took piano lessons on an old upright." Jaylene says. "On my 10th birthday, my parents offered to buy me a used Baby Grand Piano. ... They were so excited I thought, I have to say yes, although I feared it meant I would have to practice more. Indeed, I did and still do.



"We moved to Kennebunk, Maine in the 1960's when I started taking lessons as an adult from David Maxwell in Portland. He was an exceptional organist, pianist and composer. Now in my 80's, I take piano lessons with Chris Staknys our Music Director, and occasionally play for services at church. My husband, Rich, and I are long time members and sing in the choir.

"One year Rich and I came into an unexpected inheritance. We were both 75 and Rich surprised me saying, 'Now's the time to buy that Grand Piano you wanted for the church.' When we found the Yamaha Conservatory Grand Piano, Rich and I bought it together and joyfully gave it

to our beloved church. Now it is possible to offer concerts to the community.

"Our first recital was in 2018 with Dr. Hsiang Tu, from the University of New Hampshire. After the pandemic, Dr. Tu returned and gave another marvelous recital. During our 250th year celebration last year, we offered three concerts as we will this year. Violinist Patrick Doane and pianist Andrius Zlabys will perform Friday, May 10 at 7 p.m. followed with light refreshments and an opportunity to meet with the musicians. Please join us."

~ Jaylene Summers



# Letters

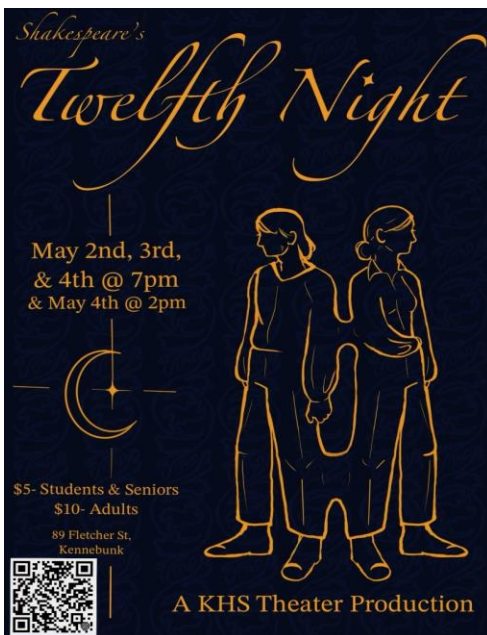
From Susan Jack

Dear Friends,

My heart is full to overflowing and there are not enough thank you's to express my gratitude to all who shared in this past Saturday's Celebration of Life for my husband, Robert. I used to say I have no family anymore, but I realize all of you, the church community, are indeed family and I treasure that so much. The support given to me over the past few years got me through some tough challenges, and I am now ready to take the next step forward knowing you are there ready to cheer me on.

Love, Susan

**Send us a letter:** First Parish News, at [uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com). We invite you to express your ideas and suggestions for how our church can be even more welcoming, exciting, helpful, spiritual, activist, you name it! Or they may be letters the church has received, such as those thanking us for a "Share the Plate" donation.



## Crow culminates high school and FPUU experience

Our own Crow Lowry will star in the Kennebunk High School production of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. In addition, they are designing costuming, zooming from 1599 to the 1920s. This will culminate the senior's stellar high school theater experience. The show is May 2, 3, 4, at 7 p.m. The matinee has been cancelled.

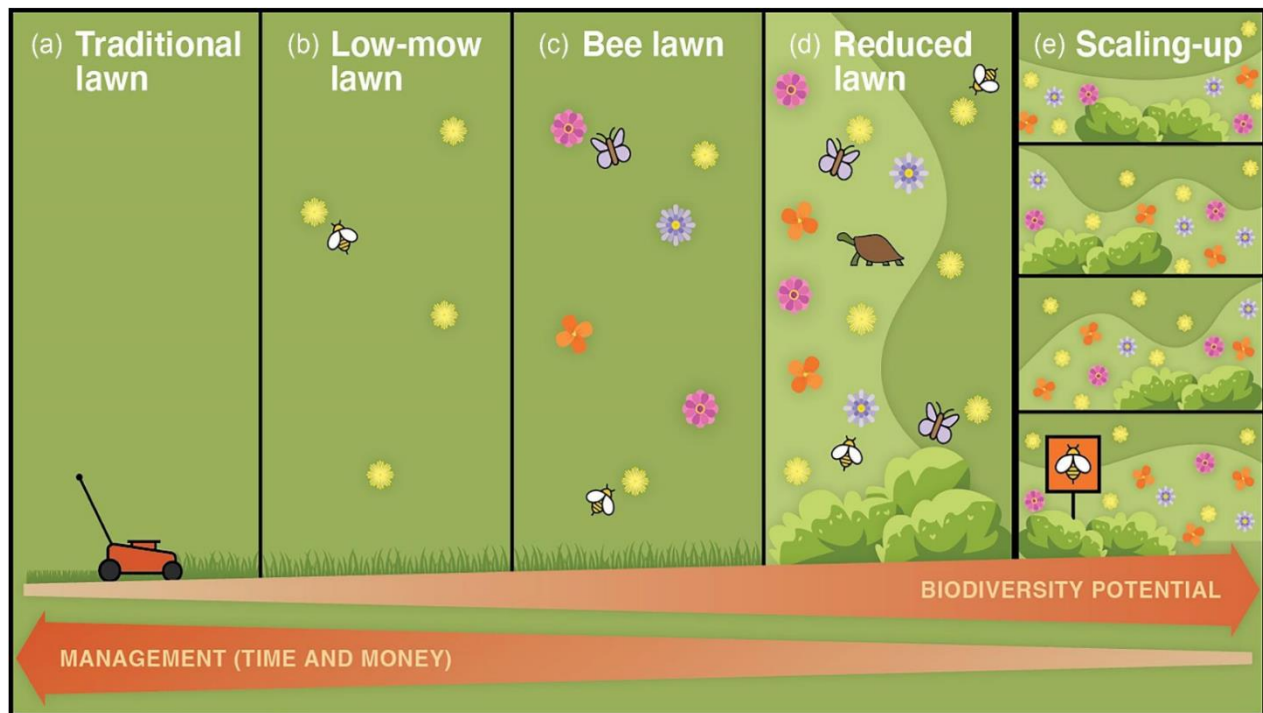
We will have a bridging ceremony for Crow Sunday, May 12. In their honor, we will have a "wish" book available at coffee hour May 5, and May 12, for people to share their thoughts and wishes for Crow on their Bridging. Please bring art, poems, thoughts, and wishes to add to the book. Supplies are available at coffee hour.





Consider taking some time off in May by letting your lawn grow as it will. This practice is advocated by the Planeteers of Southern Maine, who recently took part in our Earth Day service. The purpose of "No Mow May" is to encourage native plants to grow along with the grass in your lawn, thus

feeding the birds and bees! You may find you love the flowers that pop up: tiny bluets, daisies, and even the dandelions, which are prized by bees. So, leave your mower in the garage this month!



From Susannah Lerman study's on biodiversity potential in traditional lawns

# Women's Potluck

Friday, May 3 at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Virginia Healey. The host will provide the entrée, please bring something to share with others. For directions, questions or to RSVP, email Virginia at [vmhealey@gmail.com](mailto:vmhealey@gmail.com).



## SongSwop Friday

SongSwopers are meeting on the first Friday this month, May 3, 7-9 p.m. in person and online. Acoustic Instruments, poetry, songs—all are Welcome. Please join us, you'll be glad you did!

Contact; Bruce Childress, Jaylene Summers or Rich Gaito.

## Sunday Morning Bookcase

- Native plants: Shawn Jalbert: [www.nativehaunts.com](http://www.nativehaunts.com)
- All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis, edited by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson
- Saving Paradise: How Christianity Traded Love of this World for Crucifixion and Empire, Rebecca Ann Parker and Rita Nakashima Brock
- Podcast: [How to Citizen](#), Baratunde Thurston
- See No Stranger, A Memoir and Manifesto of Revolutionary Love, Valerie Kaur
- Darkening the Doorways: Black trailblazers and Missed Opportunities in Unitarian Universalism by Mark Morrison-Reed



# SURJ

## BIDDEFORD SACO AREA SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

You're welcome to join the **Biddeford Saco Area SURJ** (Showing Up for Racial Justice) for a Black History Walking Tour at 10 a.m. on Saturday May 4, but plan to arrive around 9:45. Meet at the Saco Train Station, 138 Main St, Saco. The walk is about a mile and will take a little over an hour, rain, or shine.



# Wondering what you can do to help elections this year?



UUtheVote is a part of the Maine UU State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN). Every church in Maine either has, or is working to have, one Congregation Voter Liaison. Liaisons will meet once a week via zoom for 1 hour, to plan, get information and support each other. Our church does not yet have a liaison.

Please consider working with this inspiring group. Email [marylyn.wentworth@tnsk.org](mailto:marylyn.wentworth@tnsk.org).

You are welcome to attend a **MUUSAN Network Meeting** at the Brunswick UU church Sat. May 11 from 10-12:30. There will be guest speakers from League of Women Voters, Maine Youth Climate Change Action Team, and more. Plus, time for conversations about housing, gun safety, democracy and climate change. Carpool with Ted and Marylyn. Go to [MUUSAN.org](https://muusan.org) to register.

## Have extra furniture? You can fill an urgent need

Welcome Immigrants Our New Neighbors, WIONN, is collecting furniture for new immigrant families. It's time for spring cleaning! Why not get rid of things you no longer need and help those who do. Contact [marylyn.wentworth@tnsk.org](mailto:marylyn.wentworth@tnsk.org).

We need: dressers, couches, chairs, complete beds (not just head and foot boards), mattresses, tables, washers and dryers, carpets, and shelves. We can do pick-up or arrange for drop off at our storage space in Biddeford. We appreciate all the generosity of FPUU in the past.



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 congregant in need. Tori can best be reached at [uukennebunkminister@gmail.com](mailto:uukennebunkminister@gmail.com). For pastoral emergencies, please use Tori's cell: (978) 238-8210.



## Contribute to FP News

Join our newsletter contributors! Do you have a photo to share? Perhaps an article or an upcoming event? Or write us a letter! Please e-mail us by **Tuesday, 10 a.m.** [uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com](mailto:uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com).

- Allison Lazos, Graphics, and layout
- Vicki Adams, Editor

# FPUU Staff/Leadership and Committee Contacts

## FPUU STAFF/LEADERSHIP

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**BOOKKEEPER:** Barbara Boscia.....uukennebunkbookkeeper@gmail.com  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Christopher Staknys.....uukennebunkmusic@gmail.com

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**CO-CHAIR:** Kim Lord (2021-2024) .....kimlord1@aol.com  
**CLERK:** Ginny Lawrence (2022-2023) .....lawrenceginny@gmail.com  
**TREASURER:** Chris Wells (2023) .....christopher.j.wells@gmail.com  
**DIRECTOR:** Ted Trainer (2023- ).....tedtrainer40@gmail.com  
**DIRECTOR:** Cynthia Howard (2023 - ) .....cynthiahoward@alum.mit.edu  
**DIRECTOR:** VACANT

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**BLUEBERRY CRAFT FAIR COMMITTEE**.....Marylyn Wentworth, Marylyn.wentworth@tnsk.org  
**CARING CONNECTIONS**..... Nick & Maggie Bartenhagen, mnpelbar@gmail.com  
**CHOIR**.....Margaret Jones, margaretj@maine.rr.com  
**CHURCH SPACE RENTALS**.....Allison Lazos, uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com  
**CONGREGATION CONNECTION TEAM**.....Amy Wood-Chair, amywood@amywoodpsyd.com  
**COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICES**.....Virginia Healey, vmhealey@gmail.com  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE**..... Chris Wells, christopher.j.wells@gmail.com  
**HISTORIAN**.....Ruth Stackpole, paw8@roadrunner.com  
**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**.....Jim Thompson, jethompson33@aol.com  
Linda Thompson, lindabear33@aol.com  
**MUSIC COMMITTEE**.....Eva Downs, evadowns18@gmail.com  
Ginny Lawrence, lawrenceginny@gmail.com  
**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**..... Andrea Rohde, andrea.rohde49@gmail.com  
**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**..... Joan Wuerthner & Jim Thompson  
**PHYSICS/CHEMISTRY WORKSHOP**.....James Vesenska, jvesenska@gmail.com  
**PROPERTIES**.....Barbara Conner, bsconner@roadrunner.com  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE**..... Susie Desantis, Gray Hirshfield, Jacky Peters, Marylyn Wentworth  
**RUMMAGE SALE**.....Jacky Peters, jpkrf@roadrunner.com  
**SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK**.....Vicki Adams, vickigatesadams@gmail.com  
**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**.....**Vacant**  
**WEDDING COORDINATOR**..... Allison Lazos, uukennebunkoffice@gmail.com  
**WED. EVENING DISCUSSION GROUP**.....Ruth Stackpole, paws8@roadrunner.com  
**WORSHIP COMMITTEE**.....Tory Leuteman, toryleuteman@yahoo.com