



## *The Chimes*

### November Newsletter 2021

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**Reminder: Turn your clocks back and check smoke detectors  
 Time changes on Sunday November 7 at 2 am**



### November Sunday Services

We gather virtually on Zoom at 10:30 on Sunday mornings for reflection and connection, keeping our beloved community safe during this phase of the pandemic.

Please join us on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/96571006038>

If the technology is a barrier, you can call in by phone at 646-876-9923 and enter Meeting ID: 965 7100 6038

November 7 – Social Action Committee – Let's talk about race: Critical Race Theory and White Fragility.

November 14 – Moral Injury



VETERANS' DAY 2021  
*Moral Injury*

As we honor our veterans this week  
we will consider the effects of becoming a soldier  
and the invisible wounds of war.

November 21 – Transgender Day of Remembrance – Guest Minister

November 28 – Counting Our Blessings



THANKSGIVING DAY 2021  
*Counting Our Blessings*

The season of thanksgiving reminds us to count our blessings  
and  
the Buddhist tradition encourages us to cultivate gratitude as a  
spiritual practice.

What are some obstacles to development of a grateful mind?  
How do we benefit from a grateful heart?

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## Minister's Message



### **AUTUMN LEAVES**

Edel T. Copeland

Golden, crisp leaves falling softly from almost bare trees,  
Lifting and falling in a hushed gentle breeze.  
Slowly dropping to the soft cushioned ground,  
Whispering and rustling a soothing sound.

Coppers, golds, and rusted tones,  
Mother Nature's way of letting go.  
They fall and gather one by one,  
Autumn is here, summer has gone.

Crunching as I walk through their warm, fiery glow,  
Nature's carpet rich and pure that again shall grow.  
To protect and shield its majestic tree,  
Standing tall and strong for the world to see.

They rise and fall in the cool, crisp air.  
It's a time of change in this world we share,  
Nature's importance reflecting our own lives,  
Letting go of our fears and again, too, we shall thrive.

Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/autumn-leaves-5>

## LESSONS FROM AN OLD HOUSE

Old Deck



Center Post



New Deck



This Autumn I am reminded of the impermanence of Nature. As many of you know, I rent my house in Maine while I live and work in MA. I have owned the property for 18 years and this is the first year I have encountered exterior rot around the windows, doors, trim, and a 30-year-old deck that needed replacement.

While I enjoy caring for my home, it is a labor of love that often requires research, consultation, and several trips to Home Depot. Progress is often slower than I would like, yet when I engage in a patient, loving, methodical, approach, I find the results more satisfying than other approaches I may have tried!

Travel restrictions during the height of the pandemic prevented me from being able to work on the house last year and the unforeseen impact the pandemic has had on the manufacturing industry delayed my work on the house this year. To further complicate matters, my friends in Maine were no longer able to accommodate overnight guests since they had moved into senior housing. To remedy the situation, I purchased, remodeled, and equipped a used camper to live in, while in Maine.

Just as I was wrapping up my work on the property, I learned the elderly woman whose house I share in Massachusetts, is no longer able to live independently. So, we will be installing adaptive equipment in the bathroom, bedroom, and stairs, adding a small kitchen to the second floor, and hiring someone to be with her when I need to be away for any length of time.

Autumn reminds us that change is inevitable. Whether it is the aging structure of a house, the need to downsize to senior housing, create a home on wheels or adapt to the gradual inability to care for ourselves due to aging or illness. When we engage the changing seasons of our lives in a patient, loving, methodical way, we are better able to gather the information we need to unlock a new world of possibilities.

Alexander Graham Bell once said, "When one door closes, another opens; but we often look so long and so regrettably upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us."

When change is difficult, it helps me to remember, life is a labor of love and through love, all things are possible...

May It Be So,  
Rev. Beau

## The Dickens Festival Season!



**DICKENS  
FESTIVAL  
SEASON**

A 5-WEEK VIRTUAL EVENT  
Sun, Nov 14 – Sat, Dec 18  
Get all the Details at  
**ALLSOULSBRAINTREE.ORG**

HOMEMADE BAKED GOODS FOR SALE  
THRU MARKET2DAY, BRAINTREE VIRTUAL MARKET  
Apple Pies | Fudge Brownies | Toll House & Sugar Cookies  
ON-LINE GIFTS: Festive Holiday Greens  
Artisan Marketplace Raffle Prizes  
DEC 18 VIRTUAL CELEBRATION ON ZOOM:  
Visits with Father Christmas Music Storytelling

All Souls Church of Braintree, 196 Elm St, Braintree, MA  
781-843-1388 FaceBook: AllSoulsBraintree



Dear friends,

It's a different kind of Dickens but we still need your help to make our "Dickens Festival Season" a success! The funds we generate will support our staff salaries and keep our building operating safely and responsibly. Here are some ways you can do your part:



**1 – Donate** the amount of money you would normally spend on donating pie crusts, apples, and other needed ingredients. Please consider a donation of \$30 (but any amount will be gratefully received). (Send to Treasurer Mary Mitchell)



**2 – APPROACH** the professionals and merchants in your life to ask that they become a Dickens sponsor by making a donation of \$25 or more or contributing a gift card. Think of the person who cuts your hair, your doctor, your favorite restaurant, your accountant or lawyer. This is an opportunity for them to gain visibility and to support our efforts to enrich our community. Contact Mary Mitchell for helpful resources.



**3 -BAKE APPLE PIES** AT THE CHURCH: Dickens Pie Day is Monday, November 15! We welcome more volunteers to join us at 9:15 am (or later) in the Parish Hall to make 25 apple pies that will be sold through December 18. Tasks include peeling apples, assembling and cooking the pies, and cooling/freezing them. Masks and vaccination required, we will be social distancing. Contact Ross Edwards, [ross.b.edwards76@gmail.com](mailto:ross.b.edwards76@gmail.com) or 617-653-8658, for more information.



**4 - BAKE COOKIES** (Toll House and/or Sugar Cookies) IN YOUR HOME. Contact Lin Steiner for required sizing and recipes.



**5 - VOLUNTEER YOUR TALENT** for our virtual December 18<sup>th</sup> gala. Contact Sandra Lingley.



**6 - TELL YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS** about Dickens and suggest they visit our website for more information about raffle prizes, the Dickens Festival Marketplace, ordering holiday greens and baked goods. Invite them to attend the final celebratory virtual event on December 18.

Thanks for helping make Dickens Festival Season a time of generosity and joy!

Tom Bularzik & Roger Hatch, Dickens Co-Coordinator & Mary Mitchell, Treasurer

## Board of Trustees



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/745838388266249539/>

Happy November! We will be starting our Annual Dickens Festival this month and will continue into next month.

Any assistance you can provide is appreciated to make the event a success! The Board of Trustees has started working on creating a covenant amongst ourselves as leaders and will continue the process during future meetings. Also, the Congregational Covenant that Reverend Joanna began working with us before her departure and which we recite during Worship Services, will be discussed for a final review at an upcoming retreat early next year and then voted upon during our Annual Meeting.

The next Board meeting has been scheduled for Monday, November 8 at 6:30 pm in the church Zoom room.

As we enter the holiday season, we hope you are able to take some time for yourself and spend time with your loved ones.

We wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and start to the holiday season!

Respectfully yours,

Joseph Maloney, Chairperson of the Board

Ross Edwards, Vice Chairperson of the Board

**Book Discussion Group**

The Book Discussion Group will convene on Zoom on **Tuesday, November 2 at 7 pm** to discuss *Never Caught: The Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of their Runaway Slave*, by Erica Armstrong Dunbar.

A startling and eye-opening look into America's First Family, *Never Caught* is the powerful narrative of Ona Judge, one of George and Martha Washington's slaves who was brought from Mount Vernon to Philadelphia where the nation's capital was located. At twenty-two years old Ona left everything she knew to escape to New England, and became the subject of an intense manhunt led by George Washington, who used his political and personal contacts to recapture her.

Published in 2017 - 2017 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST for Non-Fiction 2018  
Frederick Douglass Book Award

The Book Discussion Group's December selection is *This is How it Always Is*, by Laurie Frankel.

"It's early days, but this big-hearted novel about a family with a transgender child is in the lead for **the most sensitively and sincerely told story of 2017**...Frankel's portrayal of even the most openhearted parents' doubts and fears around a child's gender identity elevates this novel." —*People* (Book of the Week)

"Well-plotted, well-researched, and unflinchingly interesting...**As thought-provoking a domestic novel as we have seen this year.**"

—Kirkus (**starred** review) Published in 2017 A New York Times Bestseller

Join the Zoom conversation about ***Never Caught*** on **Tuesday, November 2** at 7 pm.

Join the Zoom conversation about ***This is How it Always Is*** on **Tuesday, December 7** at 7 pm.



## Connection Circles

Mid-Week Connection Circles on Zoom help us make connections across time and space.

Each week there are two opportunities to engage in conversation and community. Our meetings last for one hour, and are confidential and supportive. We begin with "check ins", an opportunity (always optional) for each person to share how they are doing, or what's on their mind.

Mid-Day Meet-up: Every Monday afternoon at 3:30, the conversation usually evolves informally. It's a chance to stay connected with church friends, through friendly, safe, free-flowing conversations.

Friday Coffee Hour: on Friday mornings at 10:00, we build more structure into our conversation. After brief check-ins, a volunteer from the group presents a topic that they have prepared in advance to focus the discussion. Last month we watched several Steven

Colbert monologues from the Daily Show; discussed the changes that the pandemic has caused in how we dress; learned about some activist UUs and Community Ministers in our history, like Dr. Benjamin Rush, John Holmes, Bill Albert and Joseph Tuckerman; and enjoyed the music of talented, young, female jazz musicians through their YouTube videos. We plan to follow the same general schedule each month. Here is our plan for November:

November 5: Current Events (facilitated by Mary)

November 12: The Sharing of A Story of Human Interest (selected & facilitated by Maureen)

November 19: UU's and Political Action: Past and Present (facilitated by Med or another)

November 26: Just for Fun (facilitator to be determined)

Please come as you are able as we grow our community and stay connected!

Mary Mitchell, Mid-week Connection Circle Coordinator

## Writing Group

The November Writing Group will launch at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, November 17. (Moved up one week because of Thanksgiving.) Our topic will be "What Are Your Favorite Holidays? Has That Always Been So?" Anyone is welcome to participate or listen to this cordial gathering. Connect with us on Zoom via ASC's web site.

Nikki Milne will be the facilitator for the group going forward. Lauren McGrath has offered a wee bit of inspiration from Ben Franklin: "Either write something interesting, or do something interesting to write about."

## Outside Community

**ADOPT  
A STORM  
DRAIN**



<https://ma.adopt-a-drain.org/#find-a-drain>

Volunteer fifteen minutes, twice a month, for cleaner waterways and healthier communities. Storm drains flow directly to streams, lakes, and beaches, acting as a conduit for trash and organic pollutants. Adopt-a-Drain asks residents to adopt a storm drain in their neighborhood and keep it clear of leaves, trash, and other debris to reduce water pollution.



On Sunday, Nov. 21, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm Interfaith Social Services will be hosting a special ingathering of food at their office in Quincy. They will have volunteers at the office to help unload cars as they arrive.

This is not a food drive for Thanksgiving food. While Interfaith will provide Thanksgiving meal packages to 1,500 households over the coming weeks, this particular food drive is necessary to keep shelves stocked with the essentials. The months of November and December are always the busiest months of the year for the pantry.

Below is a flier that lists some of the items that are most needed in the food pantry right now. Thank you for all that you do for the community and our neighbors in need.

Questions? contact Rick Doane, Executive Director [rdoane@interfaithsocialservices.org](mailto:rdoane@interfaithsocialservices.org)  
Phone: 617-773-6203 ext. 17

## Fall Food Drive

Our organization is participating in Interfaith Social Services' food drive to help local residents who are struggling to put food on their tables.

On **November 21**, we will bring all of our donations to Interfaith's offices at 105 Adams St., Quincy, for distribution this season.

### Most-needed Items:

Cereal or oatmeal	Condiments (incl. salt & pepper)
Peanut butter & jelly	Cooking oil / Olive oil
Healthy snacks for kids	Diapers (size 4, 5 & 6) and unscented baby wipes
Rice (1lb. bags)	Personal care items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, bar soap (unscented), shampoo, body wash, deodorant and toilet paper
Canned soup	
Mac & Cheese	
Pasta & sauce	
Canned tuna	

*All items must have ingredient labels with current expiration dates.*

Monetary contributions always welcome. With \$5 we can purchase 25 meals!  
[InterfaithSocialServices.org](http://InterfaithSocialServices.org)

Thank you!





**All Souls Church of Braintree**  
**Unitarian Universalist**  
 P.O. Box 850219  
 Braintree, MA 02185-0219

## All Souls Church of Braintree – November 2021



196 Elm Street Braintree, MA  
 781 843-1388 [www.allsoulsbraintree.org](http://www.allsoulsbraintree.org)  
 Zoom link is <https://zoom.us/j/96571006038>

### Calendar Highlights – All meetings are on Zoom except for Dickens Festival pie prep

Sunday Service online at 10:30 am on Zoom  
 Mid-week Meetup online Tuesdays at 3:30 pm  
 Coffee Hour online Fridays at 10 am  
 Sunday Service and Music Committee online Monday November 1 at 6:30 pm  
 Book Group online Tuesday November 2 at 7 pm  
 Board of Trustees online Monday November 8 at 6:30 pm  
 Social Action Committee online Tuesday November 9 at 7:15 pm  
 Dickens Pie Baking at the church Monday November 15 beginning at 9 am  
 Dickens Festival Season Online is ongoing beginning November 14 with live events on December 18  
 Writing Group online Wednesday November 17 at 4 pm  
 December Chimes Deadline is Friday November 26 – day after Thanksgiving