

Discovery

Summer of Hope

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Meeting on June 9th. The board and staff appreciate your participation. We had a solid turnout to do the business of Ferry Beach, with lively discussion and debate. New and returning board members were elected, we updated our bylaws, and enjoyed creating community for this annual ritual.

We have embraced many changes in the past twelve decades. Each new year and era build upon the work of the former. Dr. Shinn's hope for the future, love, is now our present. His hope and vision resulted in us. We now embark on the next era with an updated mission statement, awakening hearts to explore grow and renew the spirit of universal love, embracing our community, and enjoying year-round programming. We have begun the next era here at Ferry Beach – the community that sustains us.

Our neighbors have embraced us and there are many new members from our neighborhood. They are also committed to our mission. New faces around campus come from down the road and around the world. The hope for a vibrant year-round retreat and conference center is now in action.

Our traditions of service and ritual bind us together in our beloved community. I appreciate the commitment you all share with me. Hope for the future is rooted in service to the community. Many examples of hope are seen throughout our campus. Gardening for many years, Janet Bringola and Matt Kelley have given us a wealth of beauty to enjoy as we walk through the Memorial Garden and the many paths woven into our campus. Porches are being maintained, trim is painted, playgrounds are cleaned. Gayla Theater and Rowland Hall are being enhanced along with plantings and visual art in the Grove. These are the actions of people who hold hope, love, transformation, and gratitude close to their hearts. We are demonstrating to each other the joy of being a member of Ferry Beach.

This spring, the campus and staff experienced their first relaxed beginning of the summer season. The buildings that are not winter-ready were kept closed till the warm spring air finally arrived. No broken pipes or related damage! The heated buildings- Metz Village, Kelley Cottage, Cross Cottage and 5 Morris

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Ave along with Rowland Hall were busy places used for early spring church groups, conferences, and workshops. The DeWolfe Dining Hall served warm meals and provided a community meeting space. Quillen and Underwood were opened as the warm weather arrived. The renovation in Dolphin Room hosted trainings and the annual Town Hall. The improvements and transformation of the campus during the shoulder seasons and winters to a year-round retreat and conference center are the outcome of hope as we began our second century. The vision of the community and commitment to the future allowed us to set in motion the many changes of the past decade. This year, our winter season was busier than expected and the groundwork for future expansion has been set.



This Summer of Hope provides us the opportunity to express our vision for the future – a robust community embodying the values we hold dear. We have partnered with local, national, and international organizations, providing conferences, workshops, and space to renew the spirit of universal love.

Our summer traditions of RE week, youth weeks, family weeks, and many forms of artistry are upon us. Music, dance, writing, and visual arts remain as mainstays of the Ferry Beach experience. Many workshops and conferences are scheduled as we renew the spirit of universal love on our campus and in the world.

With gratitude, Marty Burgess, Board President

Giving at Ferry Beach

Our donors are the backbone of all we do at Ferry Beach. We appreciate all of the gifts given to us to maintain our buildings and grounds! There are several ways you can be a part of the backbone of support at Ferry Beach. We have a couple current projects requiring our financial attention.

ROWLAND HALL: We are making great progress in upgrading our auditorium and all of the first floor!! With gifts totaling over \$80,000, we are more than half way to our goal. We have purchased new chairs, added heat and AC, refinished the floors, and added some new lighting. Next up as we raise additional funds, there will be a new sound system, lighting for the stage, redoing the stage floor, and winterization so the theater can be opened year-round! We need your help to reach our goal of \$140,000. To help us reach our goal, go to ferrybeach.org/theatre

GITCHELL PORCH: The picnic tables on the Gitchell Porch need replacement! They are very scraped up and dingy, a very unpleasant surface to eat a delicious meal at! Nothing we have tried to do to maintain and clean the tables will undo the damage they have incurred. Replacement tables are \$275. To donate a table, please go to ferrybeach.org/table

SUSTAINING DONORS give a gift every month that is automatically withdrawn from their account. We rely on our sustainers to get us through some of the more challenging months of the year when revenue from conferences and workshops is small. Our goal is 200 sustaining donors and we are now at: 110. Any gift of \$15 or more per month is welcomed! To become a treasured sustainer, visit ferrybeach.org/giving

We love our Donors

2018 Donor List

\$100,000 +

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*** Indicates Sustaining Donor**

We're Not Done Yet!

Over the winter, generous donors provided us with enough funds to begin the upgrades to the first floor of Rowland.

So far we have:

- Brand new seating
- Heat/AC units on the first floor
- Refinished floors

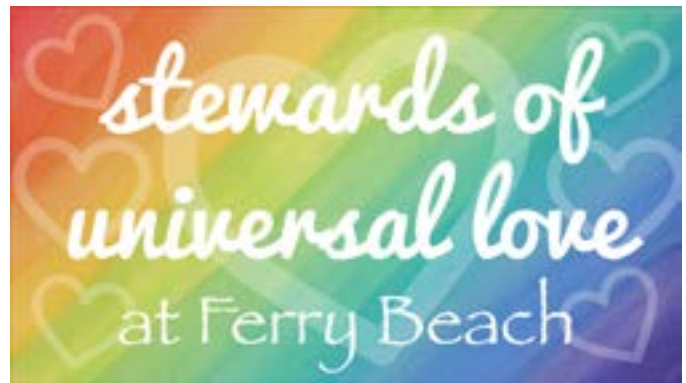


But we still have work to do!

- Upgrade the lighting, sound, and projection systems
- Replace the stage floor
- Insulate and install better doors and windows to help conserve energy
- Paint and repair wall damage

We hope you will enjoy the upgrades we've made so far, but we're unable to finish with funds we have on hand.

We need to reach our fundraising goal of \$140,000. Will you help us? Visit ferrybeach.org/theatre or mail a check to **5 Morris Ave, Saco, ME 04072**



A Year for Big Celebrations!

2020 is a year of big milestones around Ferry Beach—the 200th anniversary of Maine Statehood and the 50th anniversary of our beloved Family & Friends conference, and of course, the 250th Anniversary of Universalism in the United States.

To honor our Universalist heritage, we are offering a three day retreat on July 22-24, 2019. We will gather together to contemplate, promote, and begin carrying the spirit of universal love to the 21st century. We are thrilled to announce that the incredible, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Strong will be joining us for the S.O.U.L. Retreat. This conference is offered at a discounted rate thanks to the New York State Convention of Universalists underwriting the program. Learn more and sign up at ferrybeach.org/universallove

SUMMER SPECIALS

Sustainers! Call registration at 207-282-4489 to learn about a special offer we have for you!

Conferees! Extend your stay after your conference ends for half price lodging and complimentary breakfast. *

**Based on room availability*

2020 Schedule

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 6/12-21 Profound Treasury | 8/8-14 Company of Women |
| 6/21-7/4 Youth Camps | 8/16-20 Sacred Circle Dance |
| 7/4-10 RE Week | 8/16-21 Women's Healing |
| 7/11-18 GAYLA | 8/17-21 Soul Path Renewal |
| 7/11-17 ChoralFest | 8/22-24 Beach Getaway |
| 7/18-25 Yoga-Paddle | 8/22-26 Finding Hope |
| 7/25-8/1 Family & Friends | 8/22-28 Quilting by the Bay |
| 8/1-8 UUFAF | 9/4-7 Labor Day Weekend |
| 8/8-14 Circle of Music | ferrybeach.org/schedule |



International Staff

Every year we look forward to hosting international students who can share their culture and strengthen their English on campus and build valuable skills for future careers.

Members of this year's group bring an eagerness to adapt to an American lifestyle—whether that be bicycling downtown, exploring Old Orchard Beach, or simply eating a Five Guys hamburger.

We hope you will introduce yourselves during your stay and help show them how special a place Ferry Beach is.



Amy heard about Maine's captivating nature and knew she had to witness it for herself. As a college graduate, she is thrilled to spend a summer here before beginning her professional career in Thailand. "Everyone here smiles and says "Hi, how are you?" even if you just met them once. I've learned Americans are very kind and welcoming."



Arseni is passionate about food and has enjoyed tasting and cooking various dishes this summer. He studies restaurant management in Russia and came to Maine for a different experience. During his free time, Arseni takes advantage of the outdoors. "I like to bike, swim, and run on the beach. It's a good change of scenery."



Beyza enjoyed her time at Ferry Beach so much last year that she has returned. She has three years left of studying pharmacy in Turkey. "I came back because I love it here. Everyone is so friendly and peaceful." Beyza looks forward to improving her English, learning more about American culture, and seeing familiar faces this summer.



Kolya calls Kazakhstan home but attends university in Russia where he is majoring in restaurant management. Working in the kitchen has provided him with valuable insight into the food and hospitality industry. Kolya has embraced the change of living in Saco. "I have learned how to communicate better during my time here."



Ferry Beach gave Nurgul the opportunity to explore the nature and serenity of southern Maine. She studies accounting in Kazakhstan. Nurgul has learned to be more communicative with people who come from around the world. "In my country, we don't have the same kind of friendly relationships with others. It's special here."



Pond graduated from college in November with a degree in linguistics. She chose to come to Maine because of its scenery and small town feel in Saco. "I'm excited for new experiences and meeting Ferry Beach visitors this summer," she said. The fast pace of New England contrasts a slower pace of life in Thailand, allowing Pond to appreciate both.



As of May, Sammy is a college graduate with a degree in agriculture. The close proximity to the ocean and the woods is unique compared to his home in Nigeria. "It's nice how there are a lot of people around on campus," he said. When he isn't working in the kitchen, Sammy enjoys going to the gym, cooking in Gardiner, and checking out Saco and Biddeford.



Mongolia is a landlocked country, so Uuree ventured over 6,000 miles to bring her spirit to the sea. She is studying dentistry and looks forward to improving her English and the conferences Ferry Beach offers, especially the ones with kids. "I work in the kitchen and I love the people I work with. They have taught me a precious thing: how to smile."

Discovery

JUNE 2019



INTERESTED IN TRYING OUT A NEW CONFERENCE?

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON AT CHORAL FEST AND A DAY OF GAYLA.

REGISTER AT FERRYBEACH.ORG



The yoga retreat at Ferry Beach Retreat & Conference Center gives attendees the opportunity to immerse themselves in rejuvenating yoga to feel strong, radiant, and alive in both body and soul. The beauty of the Maine coast and the welcoming, heartfelt community of Ferry Beach are the perfect blend for a serene yoga retreat.

The non-judgmental yoga workshop designed to meet you right where you are in your practice. For the beginner or yogi with limitations, modifications and simpler versions of the poses will be offered, and for the more experienced yogi, expect to take your practice to a new level and gain insights into ways your practice can renew and transform.

Space is limited, so register today at ferrybeach.org/yoga

