



March 25, 2023

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| 6:00 – 7:00 | Appetizers, Drinks &
Music by Josh Olivier-Mason and Jared Berezin
Silent Auction
Sign-Ups |
| 7:00 | Live Auction – Part I |
| 7:45 | Sign-Ups CLOSE
Desserts & Music by Chris and Stephen West |
| 8:00 | Silent Auction CLOSES |
| 8:15 | Live Auction – Part II |
| 8:50 | Begin Checkout & Payment |

Gratitude!

We would like to express our appreciation to everyone who has helped make this evening possible, starting with YOU!

Thank you for being here; we hope you enjoy the evening!

Thanks to:

- Our generous congregation for their donations, time, and participation
- Our food contributors for delicious savories and sweets
- A great team of workers for making this night possible

Planning Committee: Dru Wood-Beckwith, Molly Smith, Liz Lovell, Lorraine Dennis, Martha Moore, Susanne Sullivan, and Angela Figuieredo

Special thanks to: Allison Sillers, Mark Taitz, Kevin Kealing, Beth Murray, Rachel Fetters, Robyn Matzke, Rob Craig-Comin, Jason Figuieredo, Melissa Martin, Al Murray and talented musicians!

How Does the Auction Work?

- Start by signing in with Kevin Kealing & Beth Murray at the front door, pay your suggested \$10 entrance donation and obtain a bidding paddle.
- Refer to the schedule on the front cover for times for the sign-ups and silent auction items.
- Read about all the exciting Live Auction offerings in this booklet.
- Gather a group of friends to bid on a group dinner – indicated with a ❖
- Use the last page of this booklet to keep track of your purchases!
- Please pay for all your items. We accept cash, checks or credit cards.

What is Offered Where

In the Atrium

Sign-Ups (until 7:45) – These are fixed price per-person items – no bidding required! Anyone can sign up until all spaces are filled.

Silent Auction (until 8:00) – There are more than 35 wonderful items for you to bid on, many with modest opening bids. Please raise bids in increments of \$5.

Beer & Wine – Complimentary drinks and non-alcoholic beverages. Donations are greatly appreciated!

In Fellowship Hall

Appetizers & Desserts – Enjoy the goodies provided by your fellow congregants.

Live Auction – The room will be buzzing with excitement as Allison Sillers and Mark Taitz auction off the gift certificates, vacation homes, group dinners, and all the other wonderful items in this booklet. In the spirit of 2023, we will also host the live auction on Zoom so our members and friends can join in on the festivities who are not able to join in-person. Get your live or virtual paddles ready!

The fine print... Payment

- Full payment is expected at the conclusion of the Auction (cash, check, or credit card). Please make checks payable to UUCR and put all item #s on the memo line.
- Please keep track of any group dinners you've won (it **s l o w s** the checkout process way down if we have to chase down this info!)
- If joining on Zoom you may check out using this link: [Donate](#), or the donate online button on the [church website](#). Type your total in the "OTHER" box. Add a note listing the item #s and "Soiree."
- We appreciate your patience with the check-out process - our volunteers are working hard to be accurate!

Redeeming your Purchases

- If the item is physically here, you take it home with you tonight.
- If you've purchased a service, group dinner, or vacation home, it is your responsibility to contact the donor to redeem these services. Ask any one of the Auction helpers if you do not know the donor.

Sign-Ups

These are fixed price per-person items – no bidding required! The sign-up sheets are on the table in the Atrium. Don't hesitate - sign-ups will close at 7:45! (This is to facilitate a smoother check-out process.)

1. Pizza and a Movie... for the kids!

When: Friday, April 28th; 6:15 - 8:30 PM
Where: Fellowship Hall
Hosts: RE Committee
Cost: \$15 per child (PreK to gr. 6) | Family cap at \$35

The RE Committee is hosting pizza and a movie for our young ones PreK - Gr. 6. Use this opportunity to go out for a couple of hours on your own or with a friend/partner. We will be showing the movie in Fellowship Hall and offering pizza and snacks. Children may be dropped off at 6:15 and picked up at 8:30. Pajamas and sleeping bags are welcome!

2. A Walk in the Woods

When: Sunday, April 30th at 1:00 p.m. (May 7 rain date)
Where: UUCR parking lot
Host: John Surette
Cost: \$10 per person – children are free! | unlimited participants

This year's walk in the woods will be in the Middlesex Fells Reservation. The Fells comprises parts of 5 towns so it is a large area with many trails. The hike will be a leisurely stroll with some scenic views. The date will be Sunday April 30th with May 7th as a rain date. We will meet at the church parking lot and leave around 1:00.

3. Tea Party and Tussie Mussies

When: Sunday, April 30, 2-4:30 PM
Where: The home of the Dennises
Hosts: Lorraine Dennis and Liz Lovell
Cost: \$30 per person | Up to 12 participants

Lorraine and Liz are delighted to once again offer a time for church friends to gather on a Sunday afternoon for a tea party. Enjoy Lorraine's lovely table setting as you enjoy a cuppa tea with yummy cakes and treats. You'll also have the opportunity to create your own tussie mussie. Liz will be right there to help you out and make a decorative bow for your bouquet.

4. Make Your Own Holiday Centerpiece

When: Saturday, December 2, 2023, 1-4 PM

Where: Fellowship Hall

Hosts: Liz Lovell and Lorraine Dennis

Cost: \$30 per person | 12 participants

Have you ever wanted to make your own centerpiece for the holidays, but weren't quite sure how to start? Maybe you have ideas and simply want another opinion. Spend an afternoon with church friends and receive guidance in crafting your centerpiece. We will provide cider and seasonal treats as well as greens, ribbon, and basic centerpiece containers. You'll have the option of bringing your own container and greens from your yard to personalize your arrangement.

5. Soupfest

When: Saturday, January 27, 2024 4:30 -7PM

Where: Fellowship Hall

Hosts: Lorraine Dennis, Liz Lovell, Molly Smith and friends

Cost: \$30 per person, \$10 for kids up to age 12| up to 24 participants

There's nothing like homemade soup in the middle of winter unless it's homemade soup with friends! Gather with church friends and family in January to enjoy a wide variety of soups with salad, bread, and dessert. You won't want to miss this fellowship opportunity!

- end of sign-ups -

Live Auction

❖ **Note: Gather friends and invite newcomers to join in bidding on group dinners labeled with a ❖**

1. Pot of Soup and a Basket of Scones -- delivered to you.

A Pot of Soup and a Basket of Scones delivered fresh and hot to your door in Reading or a nearby town, on a date and time of your choosing. Take a night off from cooking! Choose from a selection of soups (Hearty Meatball, Chicken with Rice, or John's famous Seafood Chowder?); choose what you like in your scones (Cranberry Orange, Apple Cinnamon, or Chocolate Almond perhaps?), made from the famous UUCR recipe served at the Kris Kringle Fair and at Ivy Chord concerts. The meal will easily serve 6; any leftovers can be frozen. Donated by Susanne Sullivan.

2. Bouquet of Fine Wine

Here's your opportunity to partake in a case of wine put together by the Governing Board. Enjoy an eclectic selection of 12 bottles of wine chosen by your fearless leaders just for you!

Value: Priceless (at least \$175 for those of you who are counting...)

3. Handwoven Mobius Scarf

Diane Joe offers a gorgeous mobius or infinity scarf, handwoven in wool and Tencel, in shades of rust and dark gray. A beautiful addition to any outfit. Value: \$200

4. You Name it: Choose the Sermon Topic

Have you ever wanted to hear a sermon on a specific topic? Rev. Laura has generously offered to let the winning bidder choose a sermon topic for a future UUCR service. Is there a spiritual challenge or religious concept you would love to hear addressed? Do you wonder what Rev. Laura thinks and feels about... (fill in the blank)? Now is your chance! The highest bidder will suggest three themes and Rev. Laura will create an entire worship service based around one of them, including a full-length sermon. The winner's service will be offered before the end of the church year.

5. ❖ Cantina Cavicchio: Italian Dinner for Six, Outdoors or In ❖

Bring friends and join Ron and Laura Cavicchio at their Reading home on a mutually agreed-upon date for a delicious Italian dinner. (The meal can be served indoors or "en plein air" in their lovely garden: guests' choice.) We'll start with an antipasti platter and bruschetta appetizers. Ron's famous artisan lasagna with his own house made pasta and red sauce will delight your palate along with his tantalizing eggplant parmesan. Laura's refreshing salad greens with her special dressing and yummy dessert will complete the meal. Fine wines and beer will be served. Try a festive Italian aperitif or spritzer. Some extra surprises will be in store, so bid generously!

6. Driftwood Art “Sunburst” by George Marinakis



Each piece of driftwood has its own unique story and natural beauty. Pieces of this “sunburst” were found along the beaches and terrain of Rockport, Gloucester, and Cape Cod. Measuring approximately 30” x 30,” this hand-made piece, lovingly crafted by George Marinakis, will bring the warmth and wonder of nature into your home.

Minimum Bid \$150.

7. Church Window Stained Glass

Artist and teacher Joanne Jolly-Kay offers a stunning stained glass piece of the UUCR church window. This beautiful and unique item measures 15 ¾” by 10”. Her work and class schedule can be seen at jollykaydesigns.com. Value: Priceless!

8. ❖ Escape to Charming Condo in Rockport ❖



2 Bedroom 2 Bath Condo in Historic Rockport: Located just steps from Front Beach, this 1700s antique condo is in a perfect location to enjoy all that Rockport has to offer. Enjoy a lovely stroll to shops and restaurants on Bearskin Neck, walk to Millbrook Meadow Park, and/or enjoy an evening at the Shalin Liu Performance Center – all just minutes away on foot. You and your family (up to four people) or two couples will have a wonderful time during a long three-night stay this coming Fall (date in late September to December that is mutually convenient). This second-floor condo has a patio with ocean views and a master bedroom overlooking beautiful Front Beach. Offered by Molly Smith & George Marinakis. Minimum Bid \$400

9. ❖ ¡A Tapas Fiesta! ❖

The Wood-Beckwiths will host up to 8 guests in their home for a festive evening of Spanish-inspired small plates. While relaxing with friends, you will be served a plentiful selection of delectable tapas. The menu may include tortilla española, empanadas, croquettes, garlic or grilled shrimp, and chicken enchiladas. Drinks will include house-made sangria and margaritas, wine, beer and non-alcoholic beverages. Save room for dessert: delicious tres leches cake! ¡Olé!

10. Dinner & Theater, Close to Home

Ann Garrett offers TWO tickets to any upcoming performance of the 60's musical The Beehive -- evening or matinee -- at the Greater Boston Stage Company in Stoneham, running April 14 – May 7 (<https://www.greaterbostonstage.org/>) PLUS \$50 for your choice of one of these excellent local restaurants: Rang Indian Bistro, The Stones Common House & Kitchen, or Nobility Hill Tavern, all in Stoneham. Professional small-stage theater, and excellent local food: what could possibly be better?

11. Wellness Package 2023 - Take care of you!

Give yourself the gift of yoga, self-massage and meditation with both in-person and online classes from Mindful Movement with Mary. This package includes:

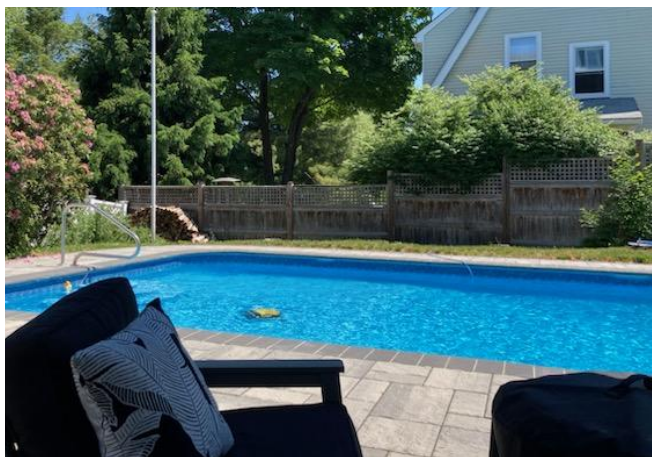
- 3-month subscription to the Mindful Movement with Mary virtual studio,
- 5 in-person classes at UUCR (Either Tuesday night Slow Flow class OR the Wednesday morning Gentle Hatha class),
- 1 set of yoga massage balls

Provided by UUCR member Mary Wahlman-Krogh, Licensed Massage Therapist and Registered Yoga Teacher. Value: \$195

12. Parking Spot for Sunday Service at UUCR for 1 Year!

Do you dread the hustle and bustle of Sunday morning parking at UUCR? Win this auction item and you will have a designated SUNDAY SERVICE PARKING LOT spot at UUCR for 1 year (until next year's Soiree). This spot will be in the side parking lot and be marked for our auction winner! Minimum bid \$1000 (just kidding)

13. ❖ Summer Brunch by the Pool ❖



Allison Sillers invites you and your guests (up to 10 people) to join her for a Poolside Brunch at her Reading Home on a mutually convenient summer weekend day. You get to choose a baked egg dish (Ham & Gruyere, or Spinach, Mushroom & Fontina), homemade buttermilk biscuits or scones, and a choice of homemade jam (strawberry, blueberry, red currant), fresh fruit and orange juice. Top bidder can choose to add a bottle of prosecco for an extra \$20 if you'd like to use the orange juice to make mimosas! Brunch can be followed by a dip in the pool: children welcome with adult supervision.

14. Garden Consultation with Master Gardener

Lacking a green thumb? Hoping to liven up your landscape? Just in time for Spring, master gardener Ken Holbrook will help you develop a plan to create or revive your garden. He will spend up to two hours offering you ideas, answering your questions, and sharing his gardening expertise with you.

15. A Year in the Pot

Be it a soup, stew, pulled pork or a lasagna, if it can be made in a slow-cooker then Kevin will make it for you and deliver it to your door once a month on pre-arranged dates. Imagine a nice warm meal ready to go for your whole family every month... delicious!

16. Anthem of Your Choice

Here's your chance to select YOUR favorite anthem for a UUCR church service in consultation with Music Director Mary Cunningham. When our new year begins in September, look forward to a special service when either the choir or a favorite soloist sings your anthem.

17. Lunch and A Pair of Shoes

Do you have a special event happening this year and need to find the perfect pair of shoes? Or have you been wanting to treat yourself to fashionable or super comfortable footwear? Let Molly and Liz buy you a new pair of shoes! They will take you out for lunch in Gloucester and then over to Mark Adrian's Shoe Store to buy you a special pair of shoes (valued up to \$150). You can be sure to receive tasteful and thoughtful input as they help you select your new footwear.

Brands: Birkenstock, Taos, Reiker, Ecco, Spring Step, Naot, Olukai, Sorel, Ugg, and Teva... plus many more!

18. ❖ BBQ Rib Dinner – Delivered! ❖

Generously donated by Jae and Will White, this mouthwatering meal includes:

- Up to 12 racks of ribs (either St. Louis Cut or Baby Back), smoked in our backyard smokers, with up to two combinations of rubs and sauces
- Cornbread (or other requested bread product)
- Your choice of two sides, such as baked beans and potato salad
- Dessert

We will deliver these items to the winner's home or to a local site of their choosing (major holidays excluded) weekends between April and October.

19. ❖ Cozy Cottage in Woods Hole ❖

Spend up to 5 nights in a cottage in Woods Hole on Cape Cod, in August or September or another mutually agreed upon time. The cottage is a 15 minute walk from the Woods Hole Aquarium, MBL and WHOI exhibit centers, and the Ferry to Martha's Vineyard. It has beach rights to a private beach 3 blocks away. Nearby Falmouth has many options for shopping and dining. The cottage sleeps up to 9 in 3 bedrooms with 2 baths and an outdoor shower. The kitchen was renovated in 2020 and has a gas stove, refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher, and 2 sinks. WiFi is included. Washer and Dryer in the basement. Offered by Martha Moore and Bruce Mackenzie.

Estimated value: \$2000

20. Party Help for Hire

Ever wanted to fix a very special meal for your friends, but there's so much last-minute preparation that you can't imagine getting it all done in time? Maybe you'd like to actually visit with your guests while someone else fixes the drinks and serves the appetizers, as well as the main dish, while also clearing the table and then serving the dessert. Imagine a scene in which your guests leave at 10 p.m. and by 10:30 p.m. your kitchen is spotless! Rob Craig-Comin can do all these things to make your next dinner party more the way you dreamed it. He is offering 4 hours of pre-party preparation and/or serving and/or cleaning up for a dinner party.

Note: If you are the high bidder and use his services for an Auction dinner, he'll throw in an additional 30 minutes of his services.

21. Day of Sailing - Boston Harbor to Spectacle Island

Join Phil Kluge on a sunny, mutually convenient weekday or weekend to sail from Rowes Wharf in Boston on a Pearson 26 or Albin 28 to Spectacle Island. At Spectacle Island follow the groomed path for a 15-minute walk taking pictures along the way. At the top enjoy a picnic lunch with a magnificent 360-degree view of the Boston skyline, Logan Airport, the harbor lighthouses and beyond. This is for 2 or 3 people and includes free valet parking at Rowes Wharf, lunch on Spectacle Island, snacks and beverages. All you need to do is show up with sunglasses and bring a gentle breeze!

22. Serving Tray/Charcuterie Board and \$50 Wegmans Gift Card



Handcrafted serving tray by Jason Figueiredo made from Ambrosia Maple: a Soft Maple with a cream colored background which is host to a variety of grayish-blue to brown streaks. It measures at 22x11x ¾ inches thick with “live edges” to give it unique character and showcase the wood's natural appearance. A pair of brass handles have been added for convenience and mobility. Enjoy this food-safe tray and your \$50 Wegman's gift card to create a charcuterie, cheese or dessert board for your next gathering.

23. ❖ Game Night: Be Wined & Dined & Entertained! ❖

Yes, the Cooks will cook for you! Sherry & Bob Cook invite 6 – 8 people to join them for dinner and a night of games. It will be a night of good food, drinks, and fun spent with friends! Let us wine & dine you and teach you some of our favorite group and family games.

24. Ride to the Airport – BOTH WAYS!

Lorraine Dennis will drive 2-3 people and luggage to Logan Airport at a mutually agreeable time in 2023. Feel free to consider the BOTH WAYS thing when you're bidding! Available morning, noon or night. Plenty of smiles available, too. Join us!

25. Parent Night out on the Town and \$200 Gift Card!

Are you or someone you love a busy parent and in need of a night out? Well then, this is your auction item!! Liz Lovell, an experienced educator and grammie of 4 and Angela Figueiredo, a seasoned parent of 3 little ones, will come to your house to babysit up to 4 children for 4 hours on a mutually agreed-upon night. You will enjoy some well-deserved time away AND a \$200 gift card to go to dinner, see a play, or buy something nice for yourselves! The gift card is generously donated by Bob Cary and Janet Nussmann. Note: They will leave their little ones at home!

26. Let the Music Do the Talking

Need to express gratitude, appreciation, beauty, grace or love, and you can't find the right words? Let a piece of music help. Beth Murray will write a short piece of music to help you pay tribute to someone special. The music can be edgy and powerful or lyrical and expressive. You pick the person to honor and the mood, and Beth will do the rest.

27. Handmade Quilt

Diane Joe has crafted a stunning full-size quilt in shades of rose, green and white. This quilt will be a perfect complement to a bedroom or to snuggle under while reading a favorite book. Value: \$275

28. ❖ Oceanfront Cottage in Lamoine, Maine in July ❖



The cottage (on left in photo) is located at 8 Sanddollar Alley, Lamoine, Maine, on the oceanfront overlooking Mount Desert Island, home of Acadia National Park. It has three bedrooms – two with full size beds and one with two twin beds; all bedrooms are upstairs. There is a full bath with a tub and shower upstairs as well. Downstairs is the living room, dining area and kitchen with dishwasher, and a half bath. All rooms have electric heat and there is wi-fi. There is a large L shaped porch overlooking the water with a patio table, lounge chairs, and barbecue. There is a washer and dryer in the basement. The cottage will be available the weeks of July 1-8 or August 26 - September 2. The house rents for \$1700 a week. Offered by Barbara and Bob Bennett

29. ❖ A Budapest Bonanza ❖

Think goulash is the long and short of Hungarian cuisine? Think again! Nancy Nienhuis and Tammy Zambo will host 4 to 6 guests for an authentic Hungarian meal. Each of the four courses will be accompanied by Hungarian wines and spirits, not to mention music! You will come away inspired by this land that blends eastern and western traditions, and maybe even learn a few Hungarian phrases to share. NOTE: This meal is not ideal for vegetarians, but we can make it work!

30. ❖ Cape Ann Fishing & Sightseeing Trip ❖



Join George Marinakis on his 24-foot dual console boat for a memorable trip leaving from Rockport and exploring the ocean and salt-water ways from Gloucester to Ipswich Bay to Plum Island Sound. Who knows – we might even have whale and seal sightings as we did in recent years! Up to 9 people, including children. Plenty of food, fun, and opportunities for swimming & exploring. You may choose from the following:

- Fishing for stripers, mackerel, blues, and cod
- Sightseeing or water skiing in Sandy Bay
- Visits to Gloucester beaches or Ipswich Bay
- Birdwatching in Plum Island Sound.

Choose a mutually convenient time in the summer or early fall. Minimum Bid \$200

Make Note of Your Purchases Here

Use this handy table to record your winnings!

- Record your bids, fellow group winners, and any other notes.
- Please keep in mind that final amounts due are tallied at the check-out table when you make your payment.

Item #	What	My winning bid

Item # GROUP ITEM NAME	Co-bidder names