

# NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.  
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM

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## "NEWS FROM THE HILL"

is published monthly year round  
by the UU Meeting House of  
Chatham.

Editor: Susan Bauer

Layout Editor: Susan Bauer

**SUNDAY SERVICES** are  
held at 10:30 AM each week.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

next month is **THURSDAY**  
September 21. Send items to  
Sue Bauer: [Ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:Ralphb1234@cs.com)



## Cycles of Life program to focus on caregiver care, natural burial, and grief

Caring for the caregiver, natural burial, and and grief are the focus of three programs in the Cycles of Life series sponsored again this year by the Meeting House starting in September.

Running on consecutive Wednesdays starting on September 20 and ending on October 4, from 2 to 4 pm, the programs are hosted by the Pastoral Care Committee. Attendance, either in person or on Zoom, is free of charge; no registration is required. The Zoom link will be available at [www.uumh.net](http://www.uumh.net).

"Caring for the Caregiver" kicks off the series on September 20. Presented by Mary Mazzer, RN, this program will focus on the caregiver role and explore some helpful tools that may be useful during a challenging time.

On September 27, "Natural Burial Options" will be the topic explored by Dawn Walsh, Executive Director, The Lily House, Wellfleet, MA. Natural burial, also referred to as "green burial," is a return to traditional burial practices that are good for the environment, economically friendly, and community-centered.

Wrapping up on October 4, the topic will be "Grief and Grieving," presented by Judith Felton, Pastoral Associate, St. Christopher's Church, Chatham, MA. Felton will explore the complex and multi-faceted journey of grief, including the concept of grief as a means of honoring those we have loved who are no longer with us, and of grief as something to embrace rather than deny.



**STAFF MEMBERS****MINISTER:**

Rev. Tracy Johnson  
arevtracy@gmail.com

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ftoppa440@gmail.com

**BOOKKEEPER:**

Kim Carroll  
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**MONTH OF SUNDAYS**

**September 3      The Journey of Home      Rev. Barbara Whittaker-Johns**

To engage in the activity of faith is to be in relationship with uncertainty and yet still know a sense of home. Perhaps one way we wrest a blessing from this paradox is to understand home as not only a place, but also as a journey.

**September 10      Gathering Up      Rev. Tracy Johnson**

This Sunday we will share in our annual ingathering ritual and welcome new members who have not yet been recognized. Two things to remember:

- \*Bring a small amount of water from one of your favorite Cape Cod spots which will be added to our common vessel.
- \*If you have been attending for a while and are interested in joining UUMH please reach out to Rev. Tracy ([arevtracy@gmail.com](mailto:arevtracy@gmail.com)). If you would like to be part of our New Member Recognition, please let Rev. Tracy know.

**September 17      Humor for Humanity      Jimmy Tingle**

Jimmy Tingle joins us in the pulpit after his Saturday show for a more personal take on how humor makes us human.

**September 24      The Gift of Welcome      Rev. Tracy Johnson**

Today we will explore what it means to be truly welcoming as a faith community and as Unitarian Universalists. We will have a special opportunity to welcome the local Boy Scout Troop that we have agreed to charter.

**Board of Trustees**

Jon Nye, President  
Danielle Jeanloz, Vice President  
Joan Caputo, Secretary  
Joe Zahka, Treasurer

**At large members:**

Beth Avery  
Naomi Turner  
Liz Van Wye

**Program Council**

Sue Bauer, Chair

**VISION STATEMENT**

We, the members and friends of the UUMH, strive:

To apply UU principles in our daily living, social actions, and community service;

To nurture a safe community that encourages intellectual, spiritual, and religious freedom and celebrates all the passages of life;

To welcome diversity and pluralism as essential for our connection with all humanity;

To provide fellowship, friendship, and fun, and to support a creative artistic and musical environment;

To sustain and promote a vital religious and spiritual lifespan education program.

Dear Ones, All –

Fall is in the air! This may only be a temporary thing, but as I write it is a cool, clear 55 degrees! The windows have been flung open and it is comfortable enough to be outdoors at midday! I have probably said this to you before, but fall is truly my favorite time of the year. We are getting into the heart of the harvest.

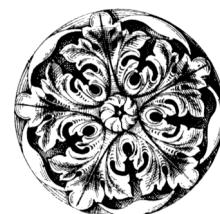
Here at the Meeting House, we are gathering in as we begin the traditional church year, not to be confused with the 12-month church year that we actually wind our way through. We will start as we usually do – our traditional Ingathering ritual on the 10<sup>th</sup> – you can read more about that elsewhere in the Newsletter and in our e-blast. We will also formally welcome our newest members. If there is sufficient interest, we will plan to take up the UUA's Common Read together. The Social Justice Committee is supporting this, and you can read about it in their section, also. I am delighted that our Pastoral Care Team has once again gathered interesting speakers to share about our Cycles of Life beginning this month.

We have talked a lot about change here in my ministry with you, and we will reap the harvest of that work one way or another as the church year progresses. The Search Committee has gathered up your hopes and desires, and they are working hard to represent us well to the larger UU community. The Board and Program Council are working on Sustainability, as we recognize that the size and shape of our congregation has shifted over time. And as the larger Association begins its year of study regarding bylaw changes in Article II, we will take some time each month to talk about this as well. We begin this month with the gift of welcome as we think about inclusion, justice, and equity. Let's plan on a conversation after the service and some time for refreshments on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Harvest sends us out into the fields, but returns us home each day to tend to what we have gathered. All that we have done together to understand ourselves and our faith more fully is ready to be put up for the future. I have zucchini bread and pints of green beans in the freezer! What have you gathered up in our time of seeking as a community of faith that is now ready to be put to good use here at home and for the good of the world around us? What has been most meaningful to you that will benefit the whole? This is the heart of the harvest – that which you recognize as valuable for the journey before us.

May your days this month be cool and clear and bountiful! May we gather together in community to celebrate the Love that is the Spirit of our Meeting House and put that Love to work in our midst.

Blessed be.  
Reverend Tracy



# Jimmy Tingle!

HUMOR FOR HUMANITY

"More than a comic wit... so cheerfully intelligent he makes his audience optimistic in the face of reality."

- The New York Times

**Fundraiser For:**  
**Unitarian Universalist  
Meeting House in Chatham**

819 Main Street Chatham, MA 02633

**ONLINE TICKETS AT:** JIMMYTINGLE.COM  
**IN PERSON TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:**  
MEETING HOUSE THRIFT SHOP, M-F 10-3  
**CONTACT:** UUMH.NET | JOSEPH (508) 945-2075



**Sep 16th, 7 PM | \$25 General Admission Seating**

**Life is too important to be taken seriously. (Oscar Wilde)**

### WHO'S PREACHING

**Rev. Dr. Barbara Whittaker-Johns** is a UU minister who serves the Institute on Religion in an Age of Science (IRAS) as an Honorary Vice President, after three decades serving in various leadership positions, including six years as President. After a nursing major in college, at age twenty she changed course and completed an MSc at Yeshiva University and had a sixteen-year teaching career, with a focus on the neurodiversity associated with learning disabilities. In 1984 she completed the MDiv program at Harvard and began a long career in UU parish ministry. She later completed a DMin program focusing on the power of our personal stories to ground faith development in a scientific world view.

**Jimmy Tingle** is a renowned comedian and social commentator who uses his wit to shed light on the pressing issues of our time. He was born in Cambridge into a Catholic, working class family, both of which influence his humor.



### THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop will be closing September 15. If you have any items that you haven't used for a few years why not part with them and give them to the Thrift Shop. We have been doing very well and so far have made \$39,000. I'm hoping we will reach over \$40,000, and with your help, I know we will. The Thrift Shop will be open Saturday September 2, from 10 to 3 with everything at 50% off. If you would like to help let Mary know at 432-7194!

There will be sales every day until our last day September 15. On that last day we'll offer customers \$5 a bag.

Thanks for all your help this summer whether you worked in the Thrift Shop or donated items. It all helped to reach our goal. See you next year!!

### OSPREY POINT - LAST CHANCE IN 2023!

Last chance for Osprey Point this year! Open to all women connected to the Meeting House. We will meet at Osprey Point on Monday evening, September 18 at 5PM for an hour or so (before the bugs arrive!) . Bring your lawn chair and your dinner/snack/whatever, and join new and old friends. It is a beautiful, peaceful place that we usually have to ourselves.

Watch the Eblast for further info or call Sue Bauer (945-3264) or email ([ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:ralphb1234@cs.com))

By the way...Osprey Point will be found on no map or through any Google search. That's because we named it – for obvious reasons, as you will see. Directions: Forest Beach Road off Route 28 in South Chatham. Go .4 miles to a left turn on Bay View. Straight ahead and up a short hill. And there you are.

Hope to see you there at one of our favorite spots.



### WHO'S NEW

We welcome our newest members, **Evan Howard and Pam Ebeling**. They have strong ties to UUMH, as Evan's parents, Bob and Marie Howard, were founding and active members. Evan grew up in the New York, New Jersey area, with his family spending many summers in Chatham. Madison, Wisconsin, was home for Pam and Evan during their working lives, Evan teaching theoretical mathematics, and physics at several colleges and later, computer science. In the early 2000's, Evan started and ran several businesses designing and marketing computers and network consulting. Somehow he found time to professionally race bicycles for 16 years all over North America and Mexico. Pam studied music and art in college and worked for the Milwaukee Ballet Company as a performer, teacher and dresser for 20 years. She also worked as a sales coordinator and handler of government contracts for Waste Management Corporation just before leaving Wisconsin. Currently, Pam is studying voice at Wisconsin Conservatory and will be singing with the Chatham Chorale. For the next few months, both Evan and Pam will be busy renovating their home in Chatham. We are happy to welcome Pam and Evan to UUMH!



**Kimberly** is re-joining the Meeting House after signing our membership book in 1997. Her parents, Jim and Nancy Stoddard, were early, active, members of UUMH. Jim, who was a college mathematics professor, taught in several colleges beginning in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where Kimberley was born. Since her mother was a fifth-generation Cape Codder, Kimberley often visited her grandmother in Sandwich. She worked at The Wayside Inn during summers while attending college at Ann Arbor.

Kimberley's 2 daughters, Kara and Kristin, were in the first group of our R.E. program. Presently, Kara is in Washington, DC, working for an International Educational non-profit after serving in the Peace Corps in Africa. Kristin is a trained soprano in classical vocal performance and lives in Chatham. She sang with the Jug Band and at the Meeting House several times beginning as an 8-year old and is now studying opera.

Kimberly has lived full time in Chatham since 1989 working for Omni hotels in Hyannis, then as a real estate agent for 37 years. She is currently employed by Christie's International Realty. Welcome back into the fold, Kimberly!



### BRANCHING OUT

Last year's very successful and fun "Branching Out" would love to continue this year. But a new coordinator is needed to pick a restaurant, send out emails to interested folks, and notify the Eblast and Newsletter. Nothing very strenuous, and you're sure to have lots of suggestions for the once a month get together at a local restaurant to have a drink, or an appetizer, or a meal—or all of these! Please think about volunteering for this pretty easy—and fun—job. Call Sue Bauer for more info (945-3264) or email her at [ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:ralphb1234@cs.com)

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

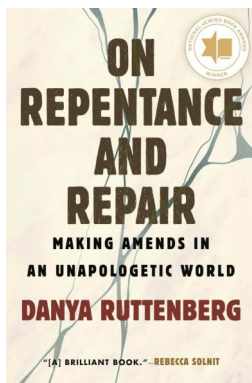
The September Outreach will be **Grandmothers Against Gun Violence**.

Grandmothers Against Gun Violence is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots organization focusing on gun violence prevention and firearm safety. They were created in January 2013 in the aftermath of the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT.

They respect the Second Amendment, realizing that gun ownership comes with individual and societal responsibility. Although the majority of gun owners are responsible, gun violence has become a major public health and safety issue in the United States.

\*\*\*\*\*

The one day collection to help the Montpelier UU raised \$434.57 which has been sent to them.



UU Common Read groups are invited to discover Unitarian Universalist resonance with the writings of the 12th century Jewish physician and scholar, Maimonides. With her interpretation, Danya Ruttenberg's book points people of any and all faiths toward modern day accountability practices that can really make a difference.

This Common Read offers a glimpse into one of our faith's foundational sources, Judaism. Readers explore our own call to be accountable in these modern times as we follow Rabbi Ruttenberg into a framework for making amends offered by Maimonides. On Repentance and Repair invites readers of any faith to explore practices for accountability that can bring us into wholeness and really make a difference in our personal, community, and national relationships.

There is some interest in joining together with our UUMH folks to read and discuss this book. Rev. Tracy will be the leader if we get a group. Please let Rev. Tracy or Robin (rlhubbard46@yahoo.com) know if you'd like to join us. If we get 10 folks, the books will come at a discount....always a good thing.



### FROM THE TREASURER

The 2023 fiscal year of the Meeting House which ended on June 30 was even better than expected. Thanks to our members and friends who met or exceeded their pledges, donated regularly to plate, provided goods and services that we would normally purchase, volunteered in the Thrift Shop, and were generally thrifty when spending UUMH's money we ended with a \$20,000 surplus. This is the third \$20,000 surplus year in a row, giving us a Reserve of \$84,000. This large Reserve gives us the opportunity to experiment with programming to attract people through our doors. It gives us time.

For those of you who like detail and tables, the end of year financial report is on the Members section of the website. Enjoy the reading. Joe Zahka, Treasurer



### MINISTERIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The search committee continues to meet monthly to prepare the way for a contract minister to take over at the end of Rev. Tracy's service in June of 2024. Our efforts have been focused on preparing a profile of the UUMH. This involves answering a detailed questionnaire with headings such as Congregational Life, Congregational History, Ministerial History, Membership and Finances, Demographics, and our Surrounding Community. We will be tabulating the results of our recent [survey](#) (last chance to get it turned in!) and adding final information this Fall. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of the committee; contact information is in the directory.

Liz Van Wye, Dave Van Wye, Sally Davol, John Raye, and Deb Zahka



### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NOTE

We had a visitor at a recent Sunday service who introduced himself and said he had met such welcoming folks on the lawn during the 4th of July parade that he decided to drop in and see what we are all about. It's a nice reminder that our visible presence in the community makes a difference. Thank you to all who worked on this event.

**People who never get carried away should be. (Malcolm Forbes)**



### DIRECTORY CHANGE

Jenni Makihara's new address is 108 Chilton Lane  
Brewster, MA

### SCOUT SCUTTLEBUTT CUB SCOUT PACK 71

**Chatham Cub Scout Pack 71** will be inviting children enrolled in Kindergarten through Grade 4 to join Cub Scouts at the Curriculum Night at the Chatham Elementary School on September 21, 2023.

The **Cub Scouts** are one of the BSA's premier programs, offering citizenship, character, personal fitness, and leadership for youth in grades K to 5. **Cub Scout** activities are centered around earning badges that are specific to each school grade level.

Come ask us what Scouting can mean for your child and your family. The entire family may participate in Cub Scout activities.

Contact us at: [chathamscouting@gmail.com](mailto:chathamscouting@gmail.com) or call 508-776-3760

### MISSION STATEMENT

**Nurturing inclusive community**

**Seeking justice and equity**

**Encouraging free minds and spirits**

### THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB

Third Monday Book Club will not meet during the summer. We will be reading *The Book of Gutsy Women* by Hillary Clinton for our September 18 gathering.

Contact Mary Parsons with questions.  
[marypmac@comcast.net](mailto:marypmac@comcast.net) / 432-7194



All are welcome for one book or many!

### PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

#### September Birthdays

2	Dorria Marsh
2	Thadd Eldredge
4	Betty Twiss
6	Thelma Dykens
8	Jean Mangiafico
12	Gail Eldredge
16	Carolyn Ormond
18	Janice Peters
20	Karen Nickerson
21	Margaret Tompsett
21	David Veach
25	Owen Shorey
26	John DaSilva
29	Stephen Davol



### MEDITATION GROUP

**“Our body talks to us in Feelings and Sensations.  
Meditation Practice is taking time out to listen.”**

The UU Meditation group meets on Zoom at 9:30 every Saturday morning. If anyone is interested in joining the group you can tune in from any location.

Email Nancy Fields with questions:

[nefields42@gmail.com](mailto:nefields42@gmail.com)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/93717313258?](https://zoom.us/j/93717313258?pwd=OUZDbzdjSzZoa2dybGo4cWp4dnNPUT09)

[pwd=OUZDbzdjSzZoa2dybGo4cWp4dnNPUT09](https://zoom.us/j/93717313258?pwd=OUZDbzdjSzZoa2dybGo4cWp4dnNPUT09)

Meeting ID: 937 1731 3258

Passcode: 040260