

NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM
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Editor: Susan Bauer

Layout Editor: Susan Bauer

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
next month is **THURSDAY**
March 28. Send items to
Sue Bauer: Ralphb1234@cs.com



UUMH SERMON VIDEO LIBRARY ON YOUTUBE

Nearly all UUMH Sunday sermons and guest speakers are videotaped and posted on UUMH's own YouTube Channel, accessible to all. You can find past sermons in a few ways. You can go directly to YouTube.com and search for Chatham UU Meeting House, follow the direct link below, or go to the UUMH website homepage. In the Sunday Morning section/dropdown, you'll see a menu with an option for "Video Sermons." These video recordings are readily available – no YouTube subscription or sign-in is needed. It's an easy way to listen to a sermon you may have missed, or to copy a link to a particular service you'd like to share with someone else.

We currently have 121 video sermons uploaded to UUMH's channel!

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?
list=PLgNxcg698pcjguFxQKqq0_Pl_5_bXeWFs](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgNxcg698pcjguFxQKqq0_Pl_5_bXeWFs)

In addition, we have 3 other video playlists on our channel: Special Programs, UUMH History, and Voices from our Congregation, all available from the main site: [https://www.youtube.com/
@chathamuumeeetinghouse](https://www.youtube.com/@chathamuumeeetinghouse)

We're so grateful to the team behind-the-scenes for creating this phenomenal UUMH video library over the past few years. We hope you'll enjoy and share this inspiring content for years to come.



STAFF MEMBERS**MINISTER:**

Rev. Tracy Johnson
arevtracy@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Frank Toppa
ftoppa440@gmail.com

BOOKKEEPER:

Kim Carroll
bookkeeperchatham@gmail.com

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:

Dawn Dinnan
chathamuumh@gmail.com

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

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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.

MONTH OF SUNDAYS

March 3 Frayed But Not Afraid Rev. Tracy Johnson

How are you feeling around the edges? Today we will talk about what is giving us a sense of unrest and what is possible for a sense of peace.

March 10 The Value of a Woman Madhavi Venkatesan

In our economy, the value of nearly all activities is conveyed in monetary terms but how do we value those that are not paid for, yet priceless to the recipient? Money is a poor measure of the value of a woman.

March 17 Seeds for the New Year Rev. Sofia Betancourt

A sermon by the President of the UUA, including Time for All Ages: Bridge of Flowers by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha

March 24 Toward Emergence Rev. Tracy Johnson

I hope by now you have read my newsletter column! How did we get here? Where exactly are we? And what might the future hold?

March 31 A Band of Believers Rev. Tracy Johnson

On this Easter Sunday in a month focused on transformation we will explore what happened to that band of followers and the ways they were transformed. What shifted for them that has meaning for us?

**Who's Preaching**

Madhavi Venkatesan is an economist and a faculty member in the Department of Economics at Northeastern University. She is the founder and executive director of the Cape-based non-profit, Sustainable Practices. This organization has led the plastic bottle ban movement across Cape Cod.

Dear Ones –

“All beautiful the March of days . . .” Do you see what I did there? The **M**arch of days? It is a winter hymn in Singing the Living Tradition, but winter is mostly passed. The light has shifted. A winter bouquet of greens and stems sits on my altar table facing the sunrise. As of late I notice tiny white berries on the holly stems. And the red-stemmed dogwood has sprouted variegated leaves at its tips. The Christmas cacti in the kitchen and dining room are having another round, irrespective of the holiday. I crossed the yard to fill the bird feeder yesterday and had to be careful not to step on the daffodil and iris shoots poking through the snow. The plump buds on the witch hazel just beyond the window over the sink are about to burst open with yellow flowers. Time **M**arches on. And all around us nature is responding with emergence.

Life is coming into being, coming into its own. Each facet, each piece of the whole, **marching** forth, doing its part. Nature responds to the cycles of the seasons, the warming and cooling we experience here in New England, changes so evident we could hardly miss them if we tried. We are **marching** forward, too, as a faith community: preparing for a new minister; thinking about how best to be sustainable; entering into the seasonal cycle of considering commitments to this beloved place on the hill, to its people here, to the work of Unitarian Universalism. So much is in the midst of making ready for emergence. How we emerge from this time is up to us; all of us a piece of the whole.

Our world is changing – shifting – in ways that can be troubling. The gentle flow of time is disrupted by fear and power over thinking. It feels unpredictable and uncertain. I wish I had answers for you, Dear Ones, that would make it all well, ease the tension. But I think we just need to keep **marching** through it, doing whatever is given to each of us as a strength or a gift or a passion that will nourish the emergence of a more peaceful existence for all of humanity. It’s a tall order, so focus on just what you can where you are – that which is in reach for you as a person and together for us as a community.

March – the month and the admonition both are on my mind. I want to invite you to notice what this transformative month is offering us – warmer days, the start of the greening of things, the sacred potential that is all around us in the surety and familiarity of the season. And **march!** Keep after it – that which you value coming into being with each step. The world needs us. Our community needs us. We need us. Let’s join together this March, pooling our hopes and our resources in anticipation of what will emerge – bright and bold and full of unfolding.

Blessed be.

Reverend Tracy



UPDATE FROM THE RESTRUCTURING TEAM

The Restructuring Team continues an in-depth examination of our governance and organizational structure to ultimately develop recommendations for clarifying the roles of our leaders, reducing overlapping responsibilities, and providing for a clearer system of accountability and reporting. Our current UUMH organizational structure was set up many years ago, at a time when the congregation was many times larger. We now need a more manageable and flexible structure that fits our current size and reduces volunteer burnout. As we make progress, we will continue to summarize our key areas of focus and progress for you. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of the Restructure Team: Beth Avery, Sue Bauer, Danielle Jeanloz, Mary Parsons, or Jon Nye (ex-Officio).



NEW MEMBER BRUNCH

The Membership Committee is warmly welcoming all new Members who have joined our community since 2019. Due to the pandemic, these special events had been put on hold, but we are ready to renew a great tradition!

If you are a new member please join us on Sunday, March 3rd immediately following coffee hour. Rev. Tracy and representatives from the Board, Council and membership Committee will give brief presentations.

A special Brunch will be served . There will be plenty of time for questions and visiting with each other.

Invitations have been sent, but should you not have received yours or have questions, contact Bonnie Brydges at bbonbry@gmail.com.

Bonnie Brydges , Kathy Nye and the The Membership Committee

A kind word is like a Spring day. (Russian proverb)



Daylight savings time March 10
Remember to Spring Ahead so you don't miss church!!

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Social Justice Committee is pleased with the participation in the Share the Plate outreach. It has been providing opportunities to assist our local community. The February collection for the Nauset Interfaith Association's MLK Action Team will go to support the programs the Action Team provides for young people in our community, as well as working in partnership with the people of Cape Cod to address systemic racial injustice and build transformative relationships.

In March Social Justice will collect money to help support the important work of the UU Mass Action. This group works for social justice within Massachusetts with a particular emphasis on bringing engagement and activities that involve our Youth.

Social Justice has arranged for the service on March 10th with the lead of Bonnie Brydges. The speaker will be Madhavi Venkatesan, founder of Sustainable Practices. Her talk will be about Women.

Social Justice is in favor of exploring the possibility of a Middle East discussion, perhaps using some films from Ed Mangiafico's extensive film library.



THRIFT SHOP REMINDER



Are you thinking about the Thrift Shop coming in May? Mary Parsons is more than happy to receive your treasures to ensure we have a great opening day! Check your closets, your jewelry boxes, your basements, your cupboards for those things that you are ready - or eager! - to part with. Mary is willing to accept or pick up your donations. Email her at marypmac@comcast.net

SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS

What does a half-time minister do?

When we hire a half-time minister, what is it that we expect them to do? Rev. Tracy has worked three-quarter time for the past two years; however budget constraints meant that half-time was the most sustainable option for UUMH.

Developing a job description for our new minister was just one of the tasks that the Search Committee dealt with this past year. Input came from many places at UUMH. You may recall the survey we did in the summer asking you what you wanted in a half-time minister; those results were included. In addition, we met with leaders in key areas including Worship Services, Pastoral Care, the Program Council, and the Board about what their expectations of a half-time minister might be. Those results were also included.

The final result was a position description that was approved by the Board early this year and which is posted at www.uumh.net in the Members Only section. In addition to conducting between 20 and 26 services a year, other important parts of the position are providing pastoral care and engaging with the congregation. The minister helps to develop a spiritual community and a thriving church community by conducting ceremonies, engaging in community outreach, participation, as needed, in Board and committee meetings, and related functions.

It's a big job to do half-time, requiring flexibility, understanding, and a cooperative manner from all. For questions or to see the detailed description, go to <https://www.uumh.net/minister> or reach out to any member of the Search Committee.

Liz Van Wye, Debbie Zahka, John Raye, Sally Davol, Dave Van Wye



HAPPY 100TH JOANNE ARNOLD



**Betty Trummel
Spoke February 18 on
A to Z Literacy in Zambia**

SCOUT SCUTTLEBUTT

This is the fourth installment of the “Scout Scuttlebutt”. Our youth are still very busy as are the leaders! The annual Charter renewal process has been completed for the Cub Scout Pack, and the Boy Scout Troop 71 Committee is working on their renewal.

BOY SCOUTS

In January **Troop 71** collected Christmas trees for disposal. Over 100 trees were picked up by Scouts and delivered to the appropriate place at a land fill.

In February the Troop went to Gunstock for a ski trip. Downhill on Saturday, and Cross-country on Sunday.

Next weekend they will bring their winter camping gear to their Scout meeting for inspection prior to engaging in a Winter Campout the following weekend.

CUB SCOUTS

Den 1 of Pack 71 attended a “Meet and Greet” with the Monomoy Regional High School Varsity Basketball Team.

They had a beach clean-up day in February.

Plans are being made to hold a Pinewood Derby.

GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scout Troop 80272 have been selling Girl Scout Cookies at Cookie Booths this month. If anyone wants cookies, please contact Marija Eldredge.

The Troop worked with other troops from their service unit to create Valentines for Vets.

They are also working on the **Savvy Saver Badge**, (personal finance) as they work for their Gold Award.

The girls are planning several outings for this spring including a camping trip to Martha’s Vineyard and attending Scout Day at Fenway Park.



COFFEE HOUR HELP

Looking for occasional help with Sunday’s coffee hour. Tables are already set, coffee is made. All you need to do is bring a goodie of your choice and then stay afterwards to clean up. Happy to work with you the first time or maybe two of you could volunteer together. Please let Sue know if you could help with this “crucial” job :) (ralphb1234@cs.com or 945-3264)

Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush.

JOYS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2nd Quarter Honor Rolls include:
 Nauset High
 Zoe Simmons High Honors
 Monomoy High
 Emma Eldredge High Honors
 Vavi Conley Honors
 Monomoy Middle School
 Luka Eldredge High Honors

MISSION STATEMENT

Nurturing inclusive community
Seeking justice and equity
Encouraging free minds and spirits



THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB

The **UUMH Book Club** will hold its next meeting on Monday, March 18 at 10AM at Park Place, 912 Main Street, Chatham.

We will be discussing “**Looking for Jane**” by Heather Marshall.
 On Monday, April 15 we will be discussing “**Dust Child**” by Nguyen Phan Que Mai.

Both of these books are readily available through the Eldredge Public Library.

All are welcome to attend for one book or many. For more information, please contact Gail Eldredge at 508-776-3760 or gail.eldredge@gmail.com



PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

People to Celebrate

March Birthdays

- 2 Emma Eldredge
- 10 Barbara Blanchard
- 12 Helen Smith
- 12 Ralph Bauer
- 13 Jane Moffett
- 13 Evan Howard
- 22 Eric Riley
- 24 Marija Eldredge
- 28 Geri Appleyard



March Anniversaries

- 7 Janice and Phil Peters
- 8 Joan and Joe Caputo
- 19 Jean and Ed Mangiafico

April Birthday

- 1 Ann Wallace

April Anniversary

- 1 Tracy and Chuck Johnson

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:

nfields42@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