

NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM
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is published monthly year round
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Chatham.

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
next month is THURSDAY
APRIL 24. Send items to Sue
Bauer at Ralphb1234@cs.com



HAPPY NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



The Board of Trustees is happy to report that Rev. Chris McMahon has enthusiastically agreed to a two-year contract as our part-time Minister, effective July 1. Our offer to Chris was made after unanimous support from the Board of Trustees, positive feedback from committee leaders, and unsolicited compliments from members and guests. Having paid off our mortgage, we considered whether we should have a full-time minister. This is currently not an option until we can significantly increase our budget.

In his first year as our part-time minister, Rev. Chris diligently fulfilled his pulpit duties. At the same time, he excelled in key areas such as pastoral care, meeting with members who cannot attend, actively participating in key committee meetings, and being available not only while in town, but also during his time away from the area. Chris is highly committed to working with our members, attracting new members, creating new programs, and continuing to get involved with our community. For example, his recent popular talk at the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center has generated other invitations for him to speak in our community such as at the Eldredge Public Library and the Men's Club. Reverend Chris reminds us that he is happy to meet with anyone by Zoom, telephone, or in person. To schedule a meeting, please email him at: revchrisuumh@gmail.com.



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MONTH OF SUNDAYS**April 6 Be a Stonecatcher****Rev. Cari Keith**

Finding the courage to choose mercy.

April 13 Can a Unitarian Universalist be a Mystic?**Rev. Chris McMahon**

UU pride themselves on reason and rationalism. By definition, a mystic is one who seeks unity with “other” defined in so many ways by the world’s religions. To say the least, mystics most often move beyond what some would consider “reasonable and rational.” A mystic seeks truth beyond what is easily explainable in the world. Often mystics use various mechanisms such as meditation, vision quests, spirit dances and a host of other activities to seek ultimate truth. How does that fit into the UU world? Is it possible for UUs to seek the mystical?

April 20 “What Will You Do God, When I Die?” Easter & Our Own Stories of Resurrection **Rev. Dr. Barbara Whittaker-Johns**

Christmas reminds us of stories of the incarnation, the embodiment, of the holy at birth. Easter reminds us of stories of the resurrection, of the holy persisting in a new, yet unknown, way after death of the body. In the Christian tradition, the central figure of the Easter story is Jesus. Other faith traditions and spiritual orientations, as well as some scientific perspectives, encourage us to take the Easter story to heart and mind as being one about nature - life itself. The poet Rilke, quoted in the service title, reminds us that since we are part of life itself, the Easter story also shows up in tales from our very own lifetimes of birth and death.

April 27 Nature and the Spiritual**Rev. Chris McMahon**

There are many ways for a person to access the spiritual side of their being. It can be different for different people. But one of the best ways is to spend time in nature. This is because we are all a part of nature. How are nature and spirituality connected? We can certainly find the answers to this here on Cape Cod.

See Page 4.

Board of Trustees

Danielle Jeanloz, President
Evan Howard, Vice President
Dave Van Wye, At Large
Beth Avery, At Large

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.

Windward Passage

Take a Moment to Visit the Spring

This is one of my favorite times of year. This has been a tough winter – particularly the intense cold and all the ice. (This has caused a lot of extra work for me on my horse farm to say the least!)

I'm just not a great fan of winter! Winter is a time of short days, lots of darkness, lots of cold, and lots of dreariness! Trees and flowers are dormant. To me, there is nothing especially pretty about winter. But I love nature, so I accept winter and do the best I can.

But – ahhhhhhhhhh – now we are entering spring! Soon in my walks on the ocean and through the many nature trails on Cape Cod, I will see the beginnings of spring! A few wild daffodils will be inching up from the cold earth. Lots of bushes have buds now and a few even tiny brilliant green leaves. Here and there wild flowers are beginning to bloom. There will soon be really beautiful flowers on the tulip tree in my back yard. Yes – most of the scenery, although still a little bleak, will soon change! Can't wait!

Spring is a time of renewal. It is a time of new beginnings. What was once dead, is emerging with new life. In the winter, bird songs seem fewer and somewhat forlorn. But with the coming of the spring, the air is filled with a cacophony of songs. There is energy in the air. I especially like the different songs of Chickadee! Spring is a time when our senses are bombarded. There are beautiful sights, beautiful sounds and wonderful smells. In our busy lives it is very easy to miss the celebration of life that comes in the spring. It is easy to ignore all that is going on all around us, but this year – visit the spring!

Take time to take a walk in a beautiful natural setting. If you are not able to walk, check out the YouTube channel and view "the signs of spring." Open a window, take a deep breath, and listen. As Buddhism suggests, be fully present in the moment. Let your senses tell you all that is happening in this time of year. Take extra special care to really look at spring, really smell spring, and really hear spring.

These actions can be a truly spiritual experience, and it can open new doors to your life, for as we say – we live in an interconnected web of life. If we fully embrace spring, we can, in a way, have a spring within ourselves.

Fair Winds and Weather,

Reverend Christopher McMahon





THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift shop will be opening its doors on May 15 for the 2025 season. I would like to call a meeting of all our wonderful volunteers on Monday April 14 at 3pm in the Fleck Room to go over procedures and schedules and to welcome all back for the new season.

Donations will be accepted starting April 1st at the UUMH. Please call Pam Ebeling if you have any questions concerning items you wish to donate.

Thank you, and here's to a successful 2025 season.

Pam Ebeling

262-666-9901

Pebeling1313@gmail.com

FOOD PANTRY

Beginning in April, there will be a box/container in the Meeting House foyer to put donations of food for the Veterans' Outreach Food Pantry in Hyannis. Veterans' Services supports veterans with food, as well as counseling, housing assistance and other services. We have donated to them before through our monthly Outreach, and this is another way to help and show them our appreciation.



WHO'S PREACHING

Reverend Cari Keith is ordained in the Presbyterian tradition and before retiring to Cape Cod she pastored several churches in northern NJ. Cari is also a trained Spiritual Guide in private practice and a pilgrimage leader. She lives in Brewster with her husband John.

During recent years, **Rev. Dr. Barbara Whittaker-Johns** has been an occasional guest minister at UUMH, leading worship along with Frank, her spouse and our Music Director. She began her professional life in nursing, then spent 16 years in Special Education, before returning mid-life to her original calling of parish ministry and theological studies. During more than two decades of full-time UU parish ministry, she became a leader in the Institute on Religion in an Age of Science – IRAS – and looks forward to Co-Chairing and being a speaker at its 2025 summer conference on Spiritual Experience. See iras.org.

Never lose a chance of saying a kind word. (Thackeray)

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Service Committee is looking for one or two folks to join our committee. Our major task is in providing speakers for the Sundays when Rev. Chris is not with us. You would be service leaders for the Sunday that your guest is here. Please contact anyone on the committee if you are interested and/or have ideas for speakers. The committee members are Liz Van Wye, Joan Caputo, Margaret Tompsett, Gail Eldredge and Dolly Howell.

The sympathy of the
Congregation is extended to
Danielle Jeanloz on the death
of her mother.



HYANNIS PEACEFUL PROTEST APRIL 5

As our UUMH sponsored What Now? Group continues to grow, we are also expanding our associations with sympathetic local organizations. Next Saturday, April 5, What Now will be actively protesting the social injustices happening NOW. The protest will be at the Hyannis Rotary (by the airport) from noon to 1PM. We will join folks from Cape Cod Women for Change, Lower Cape Indivisible, and others.

If you would like to go and need more info, please text, call, or email Evan Howard (at 262-666-9900 or ehoward1313@gmail.com) or Pam Ebeling (at 262-666-9901 or pebeling1313@gmail.com)

MEMBERSHIP

We are delighted to report that over the past few months we have had some wonderful visitors. It seems more and more people are searching for a place to find community and inspiration. As always, we have welcomed them with open and warm hearts. In the coming weeks we will be welcoming a number of new members into our congregation. Watch for information about each of them in upcoming Newsletters.

We are excited to be a growing community.

Kathy Nye and Bonnie Brydges, Membership co-chairs

SOCIAL JUSTICE

For the month of April, the Outreach will be Building a Bigger Table, a humanitarian community that supports asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants. A Taskforce of First Parish Brewster UU, it works with displaced families in need of support. They connect families with appropriate resources, assist them with creating resumes and finding employment, teach English and provide assistance on an as needed basis.

Many of us are concerned about what is happening in our country and wondering what we can do to try to change things. The Unitarian Universalist Association has several Social Justice projects which send out suggestions on a regular basis. Frequently the suggested actions have a quick timeline so getting them out in the weekly bulletin is too late. Our Social Justice Committee thought it would be a good idea to share opportunities with membership. This gives each of you the opportunity to check them out and decide for yourself. You can also go to www.uua.org and click on the Justice & Inclusion drop-down. Here are a couple of the websites:

uumassaction.org - Their mission is to organize and mobilize UUs in Massachusetts to confront oppression.

uuthevote.org - UU the Vote engages people in voter registration, issue education, get-out-the-vote drives, voter protection, state leadership development, and more.

CHATHAM EARTH WEEK 2025

Once again, UUMH will have a team participating in the Clean-Up at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 26th. Join us – bring friends – and please let Office Administrator Dawn Dinnan know if you'll join us by emailing chathamuumh@gmail.com.

Keynote Forum April 22 4PM
Chatham Community Center

Town Clean-up April 26 9&11AM

Film Series / Guided Walks
Tree Sapling Give-Aways

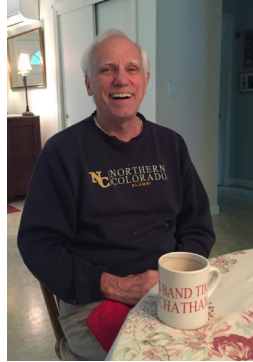
MORE INFORMATION AT

Ccfinc.org

Join us! Bring friends and family!



WELCOME RICK



Rick Pike is renewing his membership with the Meeting House. He and his wife, Susan, were among the original members in 1996, with Susan heading our Sunday School.

In 1968, Rick was drafted into the Army, serving in the Berlin Brigade. He admits to subsequently becoming a “hippy” protesting the war. While living in Colorado, he bought and sold real estate, managed supplies for a hospital, and worked for an ad agency. Rick and Susan visited the Cape in 1970 and moved here in 1988 where they raised their 3 boys.

Currently, Rick is a part time insurance agent and has also led the Great Books Club at the Eldredge Library for 10 years. During the summer look for Rick playing his trumpet with the Chatham Band.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

Don't forget that you too can provide lovely flowers for a Sunday service. Call Sue Bauer (945-3264) for more information or to have her order them for you. Or you can bring your own (New England Gardens is a great resource!)

After the service, you are welcome to take your flowers home.

Instructions for submitting UUMH news items:

The deadline for submissions to the *Weekly Bulletin* (published on Monday) is **6 pm on Sunday**.

Email items to KD Ryan: socialtechie1@gmail.com

- *Submissions suggested include upcoming events, programs, opportunities, enhanced activities, etc.*
 - On your email's subject line, please write "**For Weekly Bulletin on Monday (Insert Date)**"
- Include your name and contact information in case KD has a question.

Newsletter:

Email directly to Sue Bauer (ralphb1234@cs.com.)

Follow schedule written on cover of previous month's Newsletter.

On subject line, write "For Newsletter"

LADIES LUNCH

We will gather on Tuesday April 22 at 11:30 at the 400 East in Harwich. Come for lunch, a cup of soup, or just to chat. Please call or email Sue Bauer if you plan to attend (508-945-3264, ralphb1234@cs.com)

MUUGS - Men's Unitarian Universalist Group Social.

3rd Thursday of the month.

This month on Thursday **April 17 at 11:30 AM** at the 400 East Restaurant in East Harwich. A cordial, stimulating, friendly, and thought provoking social get together!

**WHAT NOW (formerly MOVING FORWARD)**

Our support and discussion group, What Now, will meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturday, April 12 and April 26 at 3:00 pm in the Fleck Room. All are welcome. Our gatherings aim to hear and support each other along with the vulnerable in our communities in this starkly altered world we share.

CARE GIVERS GROUP

The next meeting of the Caregivers' Support Group will be in the Fleck Room at 9AM on Saturday, April 26. For anyone who is feeling the weight of caring for a loved one, be it local, at a distance, or if you are just feeling overwhelmed with feelings, please join Rev. Chris and others to share. Let Chris know you are coming – or just arrive.

Be a rainbow in someone else's cloud. (Maya Angelou)

MARCH AT UUMH

Music by Frank and Barbara

Priscilla's Quilts

Nauset High Green Club

St. Patrick's Crock-Pot Pot Luck



JOYS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2nd Quarter High Honor Roll for Monomoy High School includes Emma Eldredge.

Great photo in the March 13 Chronicle of the four Nauset High students who presented a really interesting and encouraging program as part of the Nauset Green Club.

Earlier Chronicle article highlighted the purchase of a new headquarters for the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge at 791 Main Street, very close to UUMH. The article spoke of the connection made by realtor and UUMH member Kimberley Howard between the owner of the building and the folks at the Monomoy Refuge to help them find a new home.

PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

April Birthdays

- 1 Annie Wallace
- 7 Sally Davol
- 8 Connie Pina
- 24 Mary Byrne
- 25 Deb Blackie
- 29 Pavia



April Anniversary

- 5 Sue and Ralph Bauer

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Evelyn Raye’s cell phone is 508-237-5907. Her email is EJRaye19@gmail.com

Deb Blackie’s information: 7 Clifford Pl. Chatham 508-364-7228



MISSION STATEMENT

Nurturing inclusive community

Seeking justice and equity

Encouraging free minds and spirits

THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB

The **UUMH Book Club** will meet Monday, April 21 to discuss *The Soul of an Octopus* by Sy Montgomery. Join us for one book or many. For more information, please contact Gail Eldredge at 508-776-3760 or gail.eldredge@gmail.com



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

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