

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**
August 25. Send items to
Sue Bauer: Ralpb1234@cs.com



BACKPACKS

SOCIAL JUSTICE – OUTREACH

The Social Justice Outreach for the month of August will be the Homeless Prevention Council's Backpacks for Students Program. This program provides local students in our local schools with a backpack full of the required school supplies. These supplies are specific to the school and grade of each student. They also include a gift card for each student to buy a pair of sneakers to start school in.

Last year they gave backpacks to 350 students. The price per backpack varies from fairly inexpensive for the pre-K kids to about \$100 for a HS kid who might need a graphing calculator in their pack.

The distribution of packs is the week of August 22. They will be filling the packs the week of August 15, so early donations would be great.

If you would rather get a backpack and fill it yourself (see the list on page 5), the backpacks will need to be dropped off the week of the 15th. If this is your choice, please get in touch with Robin Hubbard (r1hubbard46@yahoo.com).

Besides money/backpacks, they would love volunteers to help pack the backpacks that week. Be in touch with Robin about this as well.

[See also page 5]



STAFF MEMBERS

MINISTER:

Rev. Tracy Johnson
arevtracy@gmail.com

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ftoppa440@gmail.com

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Board of Trustees

Ed Mangiafico, President
Jon Nye, Vice President
Danielle Jeanloz, Secretary
Joe Zahka, Treasurer

At large members:

Greg Heyl
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.

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

August 7 Article II, What's That? Rev. Tracy Johnson

Reflections on this year's General Assembly and the work of the Article II Study Commission.

August 14 What's in Your Box? Part Two Rev. Tracy Johnson

At our Annual Meeting in June we heard about the formation of the *On the Cusp of the Future* working group. Today we will take an initial dive into thinking about our future here as a UU community of faith.

[8am Oyster Pond Rev. Tracy will be preaching at Oyster Pond on this date as well.]

August 21 , Backpacks for Education Christina Silva

Christina Silva from the Homeless Prevention Council will speak on the Backpacks for Education program.

August 28 Bearing Witness Rev. Tracy Johnson

Every year at the General Assembly we vote on three *Actions of Immediate Witness*. Today we will explore this year's selections and what they mean for us as people of faith here in Chatham.



Dear Ones, All –

Happy August! We have reached the halfway point in our busy summer season here on Cape Cod! It has been my joy to see so many of you here at the Meeting House on Sundays and during the week while I am in the office. This place comes alive when we are present, and I know that being together is something we have missed dearly in recent years. We are still being careful as this very complicated virus makes its way in our midst, but we have not foregone the opportunity to safely connect to one another. That we will not let it take away from us. Our “Conversations on the Porch” are a great way to rekindle old friendships and make new ones. Join us following Sunday services. I have been able to spend some time with members who can’t get out as easily in the past month and hope to continue to do so. If you are local and would like me to come by for a visit, please just call and we will make a time. And don’t be surprised if I call to check in on you!

The beauty and bounty of the Cape give me great pause. We are blessed by these incredible surroundings. For those of us on the Lower and Outer Cape there is really no bad view! Whether you are near a beach or a marsh, or have a yard full of hydrangeas, or are privy to the travels of migratory birds, there is always something of mystery and awe that beckons. Creation seems to come alive this time of year also, even as we know it, too, has its cycles and seasons and is fully alive year-round. I catch myself sometimes just staring at a particular flower or bird as a feeling of oneness with my surroundings overtakes me. We are prime space for the healing powers of mindfulness! I hope you are able to spend some time with such a practice and that it brings you peace.

This month I will be bringing you more news from the UUA General Assembly and what the goings on there have to do with us here. And we will begin some conversations about our future here on the Hill. On August 14th at 8:00 a.m. I will be providing the morning service at Chatham’s Oyster Pond. It is a lovely collection of interfaith folks who gather to greet the day on the beach. I hope some of you may join me. If you have been attending services at the Meeting House for a while and would like to talk about membership, I will be holding some space for those conversations on Wednesday, August 31st at 10:00 a.m. Weather permitting, we can circle up outdoors and talk about our faith and this community. I love nothing more than hearing about other’s faith journeys and sharing about the gifts that Unitarian Universalism offers to us.

May your days be filled with ease and joy in this season of warmth and light. May you be touched by gentle sea breezes and the scent of pine in the sun. May you be reminded of all the reasons you first came to this spit of land, and may you be blessed by the memories you make this month.

Blessed be.
Reverend Tracy





THRIFT SHOP

Still going great!!!! Half way through our season, we have earned over \$28,000 for the Meeting House! Obviously, we would like to continue this!!

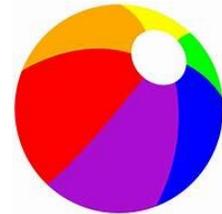
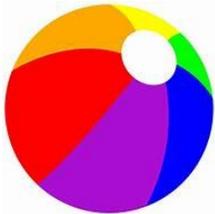
Help keep our dream and our mission going. Your participation is GREATLY appreciated – donate, volunteer, BUY!!!

Monday-Friday 10AM-3PM

AN INVITATION

We occasionally have photos of the work of our many artists. But what about other forms of creativity? There isn't always a lot of empty space available in the monthly newsletter, but if you are a writer or a poet, perhaps we could print something of yours to share with the members of the UUMH. Opinion pieces, photos, pictures of your creative endeavors..... We would love to see those as well, and we're pretty sure others would too!

Call or email Sue Bauer with your ideas. ralphb1234@cs.com or 508-945-3264



REMINDER FOR AUGUST 31

Tracy will meet with anyone interested in membership or simply learning more about us on Wednesday August 31 at 10AM at the Meeting House.

Faith has nothing to fear from thinking. (Alfred Schweitzer)

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Greeters needed!

The Membership Committee is looking for a few more greeters. Greeters arrive at the sanctuary on Sunday by 10:15 and then welcome both long time members and visitors, helping visitors sign in and get a nametag. You can volunteer every so often, as your schedule permits, or on a regular basis like once a month. It's a great way to get to know other members of the congregation, and if you are planning to come anyway, why not give it a try? We'd love to have you. For more information contact Bonnie Brydges, Membership Committee co-chair at bbonbry@gmail.com.

BACKPACKS, cont.

There will be a box labeled "Backpacks" in the upstairs foyer of the Meeting House

We are still in need of:

- *Expo markers
- *Composition Notebooks
- *2 pocket folders
- *1.5- inch binders
- * 1 subject notebooks
- *Headphones with noise cancellation (over the ear, corded)
- *Insulated Metal Water Bottles
- *Computer mouse (corded)
- *Pencil Top Erasers
- *Broad Tipped Washable Markers
- *Colored Pencils
- *Ticonderoga #2 Pencils
- *Markers
- *Scientific Calculators
- *Crayons (24 count box)
- *Gift cards for sneakers



LOCKING DOORS

We live in a time of uncertainty. The Meeting House has not experienced a problem, but the Board and the Minister are looking towards the future and possible problems. The Board will soon prepare a set of guidelines for locking the Meeting House doors on Sunday mornings shortly after the service starts. Access via the code at the Fleck Room door is always available, but you may want to make sure you are on time!!



IN MEMORIAM

**Jane Eccles
1933-2022**

**Dick Eccles
1931-2022**

**Long-term active members
of the Meeting House**



SPECIAL UUMH FUNDS

Did you know??? There are several special funds here at UUMH devoted to particular areas of UUMH life. The Newsletter will occasionally feature one of these.

The Loomis Fund was established many years ago in honor of Dave Loomis to further the music program of the Meeting House. The fund is used to buy music to be performed and also to hire outside musicians for special programs and services.

Anyone is welcome to contribute to the fund at any time. Donations in honor or in memory of someone are a wonderful way to remember someone for whom music was important.

The Music Committee and Music Director determine the use of the funds. The Loomis Fund is a restricted Fund and cannot be used for general purposes.

Something to remember: Memorial donations or donations honoring someone can always be given to the general fund at the Meeting House. But perhaps the person you wish to remember had a special interest – or maybe you do. These special funds may be the perfect place for your donation. Simply send your donation with the name of the Fund on the Note line. Memorial donations will be acknowledged by the Pastoral Care Team.

THE GATHERING AT OSPREY POINT

The women's group, The Gathering, met in June at "Osprey Point." Lovely time was had by all! July was rained out, but hopefully, by the time you read this, we will have new dates set up for August. And then in September too!

We will gather at 5PM for an hour or so with our chairs and bag suppers for conversation as well as a chance to take in the beauty and peace of our surroundings. Watch the Eblast for information on the August gathering.

All women connected to the Meeting House are invited. Call or text Charlotte Edgecombe for info at 508-221-0533. Directions will go out by email, so let us know if you would like to be put on the list .

By the way, Osprey Point will be found on no map or through any Google search! It was named by our group many years ago for obvious reasons – no idea if the area has an actual name!



BOARD OF TRUSTEES NEWS

Get to know more about your Board of Trustees with our mini-bios now updated and available on our website under the Leadership page at: <https://www.uumh.net/our-leadership>.

Stay in the know about what your Board of Trustees is working on and thinking. Recent minutes from the board meetings are available at: <https://www.uumh.net/board-minutes>.

Did you know that the Board of Trustees' monthly meetings are open to any member of UUMH Chatham? These meetings are generally held on the third Friday of the month from 4-5:30 pm on Zoom. The schedule is posted on our website calendar each month at <https://www.uumh.net/scrolling-calendar-of-events>. If you are interested in joining us, please let any board member know in advance by email, and we will send you the Zoom link for that month.

Your feedback and topics about what we should be discussing are always welcome!

An unexamined faith is not worth having. (James Luther Adams)



From the service on Gun Violence

Presented by the Social Justice Committee and Grandmothers Against Gun Violence

Margaret Tompsett, Joan Caputo, Donna Wald



Priscilla Smith and her textile piece "Trayvon"

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING UUMH NEWS ITEMS:

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"

Eblast: Weekly Bulletin:

The deadline for submissions Eblast (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.

JOYS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

. Emma Eldredge received High Honors for the 4th quarter at the Monomoy Middle School.

Grady Howell, grandson of Dolly Howell, received High Honors as a graduating senior at Monomoy Regional High School.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Linda Redding has only a cell phone.
The number is 774-722-1758

BRIDGE ANYONE?

Would you and a partner enjoy playing contract bridge once a month next year? If so, contact Carol Ann Yeaple, and join the *UU Bridge Marathon*. You can reach her at CAYeaple@live.com or 508-760-8127.

We play friendly bridge at all levels of play. The program is open to the community. Per a schedule, we alternate hosting in each others' homes once a month (Sept. through April) at a time agreed upon by the 4 players. You will meet and enjoy different pairs every month. The only cost is \$25 per person for the UU minister's discretionary fund of the UU church of your choice. In May there will be a luncheon for all with rounds of bridge and the yearly winners announced.

Contact Carol Ann no later than Aug. 10 in order to be involved. It's fun and a nice way to meet new people.

THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB

Third Monday Book Club is taking the summer off.

Contact Mary Parsons with questions.
marypmac@comcast.net / 432-7194



See you in September when we discuss *Becoming* by Michelle Obama.

PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

August Birthdays

- 1 Jean Needel
- 2 Janet Jansson
- 13 Pat Army
- 15 Anastasia Conley
- 18 Nancy Chase
- 21 Ruth Treen
- 26 Liz Van Wye
- 27 Allison Shorey



August Anniversary

- 5 Sally and 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 with Joan Konopka as the facilitator.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/93717313258?pwd=OUZDbzdjSzZoa2dybGo4cWp4dnNPUT09>

Meeting ID: 937 1731 3258
Passcode: 040260

Meeting ID: 937 1731 3258
Passcode: <https://zoom.us/j/ahzDWHT1c>