

NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Search Committee News	1
Month of Sundays	2
Minister's Message	3
Who's Preaching	4
Membership Committee	4
Osprey Point	4
Social Justice Committee	5
In Memoriam	5
Committee Opportunities	6
Flowers	6
Thrift Shop	7
Bridge	7
Bits and Pieces	8

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
next month is **THURSDAY**
August 24. Send items to
Sue Bauer: Ralphb1234@cs.com



THE SEARCH COMMITTEE WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Starting Sunday, August 13 you will have a significant opportunity to influence the selection of the next minister for UUMH by participating in our Congregational Survey. In June, Rev. Tracy will complete her service as our minister, and your Search Committee, composed of Liz Van Wye, Dave Van Wye, Sally Davol, John Raye and Deb Zahka, has been working to find a replacement.

What is important to you in a minister? What does "good preaching" mean to you? The Search Committee will be looking for your voice in helping match us with prospective candidates. The survey will be conducted online at www.uumh.net; on paper, available in the sanctuary; and in person through discussions in small groups.

The committee expects to begin to engage with prospective candidates in December; that process may last until April 2024 at which time the committee hopes to make a recommendation to the Board, which may enter into a contract at that time. In the meantime, this is a great chance to give us your thoughts!

If you have any questions, feel free to speak with any member of the committee; contact information is in the directory.

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



STAFF MEMBERS

MINISTER:

Rev. Tracy Johnson
arevtracy@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Frank Toppa
ftoppa440@gmail.com

BOOKKEEPER:

Kim Carroll
bookkeeperchatham@gmail.com

Board of Trustees

Jon Nye, President
Danielle Jeanloz, Vice President
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At large members:

Beth Avery
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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

August 6 Every Step An Impact Rev. Tracy Johnson

Today we will remember the horrific 1945 bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and explore the nuclear option in all its applications in our lives. What are our choices against a backdrop of doing no harm?

August 13 Emerson Revisited Rev. Tracy Johnson

Today I will take a dive into Emerson and his cohort, mining their thought processes for meaning in our times.

August 20 Tasting Memory: Tapping into Our Culinary Roots Marjorie Silverman

In this bountiful time of harvest, we will come closer to our ancestry and our current family through food, its preparation, history and memory.

August 27 Thinking About Thinking Rev. Tracy Johnson

Each of us has our own way of thinking about things. And now I am beginning to wonder about artificial thinking as it rises up in our midst.

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.



See page 4 for more information on who is preaching.

Dear Ones, All –

On these steamy summer mornings, I take my breakfast on the back porch, a little bistro table just outside the door. It is slightly cooler then, before the sun makes its way over the treetops; sometimes a gentle breeze comes across the yard. I breathe it in. All around me is a cacophony of living things. The birds flit and dart about, taking their breakfast, too, at the feeders we keep up. There are orioles and blue jays, the all-too-common grackles, catbirds, and red-winged blackbirds, woodpeckers of three varieties, plus the flickers, hummingbirds, goldfinches, honeybees, and butterflies, the occasional crow. Once, a summer or two ago, a little girl was passing by on the road with her mom and she was overheard to say, “They have all the animals!” And we do, I guess! Squirrels – gray and red, chipmunks, rabbits by the hundreds it seems, coyote, wild turkeys, deer, a raccoon we encountered taking up residence in the shed, an opossum lurking beneath the grill.

We coexist with this menagerie around-about us, mostly entertained by it. The new ones show up with their mottled feathers all askew, lacking their full color and their ability to fly right or land steadily. They are not in the least bit put off by our presence either. When we go out to tend the feeder in the morning, the little red squirrel sidles up and chatters away in anticipation of fallen seed. The chipmunks have been known to climb atop Chuck’s boot, admonishing him to get on with it. I don’t know if wild animals experience gratitude, but it sounds like they are happy, pleased to have come upon this sanctuary of sorts.

So, why am I telling you all of this?! This morning as I sat thusly watching with fascination, listening to the symphony of sound, enjoying the fleeting cool dawn breeze, I began to think about us, here on the hill. In the summer months, the Meeting House comes to life with all the sights and sounds of life in a small shoreline town, swelling in number and variety. People we wouldn’t see any other time of the year appear, kids in tow. And while we know better than to attempt left turns or frequent local attractions, we welcome it all into our midst. There is a joy that bubbles up as the level of activity reaches a crescendo and then begins to taper off as August winds down. Our doors are always open, but the stoop is more often crossed by the curious, and we count ourselves as blessed to have guests from afar who may someday become more permanent residents, like I was years ago. We peacefully coexist with the community in which we find ourselves, altered in these few months as if it were another place and time, set apart from the rest, but it is our home nonetheless, and we are grateful for it. Some of us will head to warmer climes when it is all over, much like my backyard friends, but they return year after year.

There is something to love about this place in all of its seasons, and in this month of family and friends, beaches and boating and biking, lazing about in the heat of the day, we are especially reminded of the gift of this life in this space in this time. This, our home, and our church home, a collection of personalities and activities, an opportunity to share from what is most meaningful to us: the love that is at the center of our beings and our existence together. May you take time this August to love and to be loved by all that the season brings your way.

Blessed be,
Reverend Tracy



WHO'S PREACHING

Marjorie Silverman is a writer and actor who spent 22 years on stage before assuming her current and most beloved role as student of her five year old son Augie. They live in Chatham and Manhattan with her husband Bill, an NYPD Detective. And can often be found walking labyrinths under the moon or splashing in the Atlantic at sunrise any time of the year.

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, followed by 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.

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Committee is looking for more volunteers to greet at Sunday services. You can sign up for as many or few Sundays as your schedule permits. It is a great way to greet old friends and welcome newcomers. No previous experience required, just a warm, welcoming smile! For more information, email Bonnie Brydges, Membership co-chair at bbonbry@gmail.com.

And, stay tuned for new AED/CPR training dates.

OSPREY POINT

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

This month: Monday August 21 at 5PM

Watch the Eblast for further info or call Sue Bauer (945-3264) or email (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.

We change, whether we like it or not. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Through our Outreach we have helped 12 different groups, mostly on the Cape, but also internationally (with donations to earthquake relief.) We discussed future outreach and are developing a list for the coming year. The SJ Committee would really appreciate suggestions as we are only a few and know we can't think of every good cause....so, if you have a suggestion, email Robin at davrobhub@comcast.net.

The Community Outreach for the month of August will be in support of immigrant families being housed at the Temporary Emergency Shelter at Joint Base Cape Cod. Currently there are 60 families in short-term housing while a long-term placement is found. As each family is relocated, they are being replaced by another immigrant family. Our goal is to "Practice Hospitality" with other churches on the Cape through the Cape Cod Council of Churches to help ease the transition for these displaced families. The moneys raised will be used to purchase specific essentials such as household cleaners, baby supplies, shoes of all sizes, children's books in several languages, and much more.

One Sunday Special Collection

On Sunday, August 6, we will have a special one day collection to help our fellow UUs in Montpelier. Their church is very close to the river and had water damage from the recent floods. Our collection will help with repairs. This is not the monthly Community Outreach, but rather an opportunity to help one of our New England neighbor churches.

IN MEMORIAM

**Laurie Noble
1940-2023**

**Memorial Service
Sunday, August 6 ~ 2PM-5PM
The Quin House
216 Commonwealth Ave
Boston, MA**

RSVP to Kim at surfzuma7@gmail.com.

You can read Laurie's obituary at:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/chatham-ma/hannelore-noble-11367075>





HOW ABOUT THIS???



Starting in September, we will be looking for new chairs for two UUMH committees. How about you?? Want to help, but not sure what you might do?? How about one of these!???

HOSPITALITY: Recruit volunteers (1-2 per week) to set up and clean up. For after church refreshments.

Summer on the porch, Winter in the Fleck Room. Purchase juice in the summer, order coffee in the winter.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: As we get back to pre-Covid normal, pot lucks and picnics or something different can re-start! Two chairs would plan, sign-up attendees, decorate, and cleanup. Perhaps quarterly?

Trust me, people are always willing to help—before, during, after.

If you want to volunteer or just explore further, please call Sue 945-3264 or ralphb1234@cs.com. THANKS!!!!



**Alan Rust and musical friends
His journey through the theatre**



SUMMER BLOOMS

Do you have lots of beautiful flowers in your garden this summer? If you would like to share on any given Sunday, we would love to have them! The Rayes have also offered the flowers from their large and beautiful garden. You would just need to cut them. We even know someone who would be willing to arrange them for you! Call Sue Bauer at 945-3264 to offer some of your garden's bounty!



THRIFT SHOP

Still plenty of time to visit the Bearly Used Thrift Shop.
Monday-Friday 10-3

Donate—Shop—Check out our great selection of clothes, kitchen items, dishes, glassware, jewelry, books, music, and movies, games.....and more!!



Rev. Paul Brandeis Rushenbush



Rev. Raushenbush and Anne LeClaire

ANYONE FOR BRIDGE?

Our UU Marathon Bridge Group is looking for more members to benefit the UU Church of your choice with a donation for their minister's Discretionary Fund. You and your partner will play friendly bridge once a month (Sept. - April) in member homes. Prizes are given at a luncheon in May. Community members are welcome. It's a great way to meet new friends, challenge your mind, and have fun.

For more information, contact Carol Ann Yeaple before August 15th, 508-760-8127,

To change and to improve are two different things. (German proverb)

JOYS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

What a wonderful feature on Zoe Simmons in the July 6 Chronicle. She is one special and accomplished young woman who cares especially for our environment.

Congratulations to Mary Chesnut on the birth of her first great grandchild!!

Great picture of Naomi Turner in the July 6 Chronicle feature "Remember When?" 2004 as the Grand Marshall of the July 4 parade!

And one more great Chronicle picture of our famous UUs on the July 4 front lawn : Kevin Howard, Susan Patterson, Jenni Makihara, and Bonnie Brydges.

PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

August Birthdays

- 2 Janet Jansson
- 13 Pat Army
- 15 Anastasia Conley
- 21 Ruth Treen
- 26 Liz Van Wye
- 27 Allison Shorey



August Anniversary

- 5 Sally and Stephen Davol

DIRECTORY CHANGE

Anastasia, Bill, and Vavara Conley have a new address: 24 Holmes Road East Harwich, MA 02645

BRANCHING OUT

Branching Out will let the tourists have their turn! It will return in September

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 / 432-7194



All are welcome for one book or many!

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