

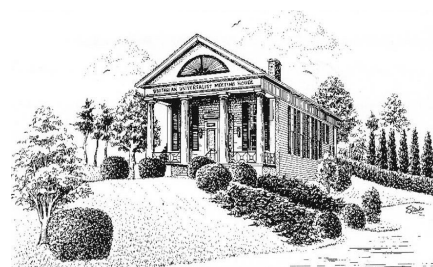
NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM

PO BOX 18 CHATHAM MA 02633

508-945-2075

MAY 2022 VOLUME XX NUMBER 5



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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
April 21. Send items to



Sue Bauer: Ralphb1234@cs.com

THRIFT SHOP OPENS MAY 16



GET READY!!! BRING YOUR FRIENDS!!!

MONDAY-FRIDAY 10-3 STARTING MONDAY MAY 16

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED BEGINNING MAY 2
MONDAY-FRIDAY, 10-1**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND WELCOMED MAY 2
AND THE FOLLOWING DAYS TO HELP SET UP THE
SHOP, PRICE ITEMS, HANG THEM UP, LOTS OF
JOBS TO HELP MAKE THIS A BANNER YEAR.**

**CALL MARY PARSONS 432-7194 TO VOLUNTEER
TO HELP SET UP, TAKE A WEEKLY SHIFT, OR
JOIN THE SUB LIST.**

AND THEN.....COME AND BUY!!

STAFF MEMBERS**MINISTER:**

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arevtracy@gmail.com

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ftoppa440@gmail.com

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Mary Parsons, Vice President
Joe Zahka, Treasurer

At large members:

Greg Heyl
Danielle Jeanloz
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**May 1****Living in the Rainforest****Joe Zahka**

The rainforest is more than an environment. It is a place where people live and make a living. It appears to be a lush paradise, but appearances are deceiving. The forest is fragile and the act of living in it can cause it damage. The rainforest has a lot to teach us about living sustainably.

May 8**Music and More****May 15****Keepers of the Dream****Rev. Tracy Johnson**

This week is "Bring a Friend Sunday." Invite a friend to join us in person or on zoom. Together we will explore some of what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist.

May 22**Join with Another Church**

A link will be provided in that week's eblast

May 29**Decoration Day****Rev. Tracy Johnson**

On this Memorial Day weekend we will take a look at the history and significance of this holiday, while taking some time to honor those who have given their lives for our country.

Who's Preaching

Joe Zahka, a member of UUMH, was a physics and engineering teacher at Bedford (MA) High School when he was given a fellowship to work with Earthwatch in Ecuador.

Joe now spends his time playing golf, organizing golf leagues, and fixing things at the Meeting House.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Dear Ones, All –

The spring of the year is fully upon us with the beauty of new life all around, even as we grieve together the deaths that have recently occurred in our midst. It is good to have one another, to be together in these times, to support each other as we wrestle with the bigger questions of life and death. We are fortunate to be part of such a caring community in which to rest our hearts and spirits. It is at times like this that we are reminded of the value of a strong faith community in our lives.

I hope by the time you read this you will have submitted your pledge to the Meeting House. Financial support is necessary to cover the basics and we can't plan for the year ahead without knowing where we stand. Whatever your contribution, it is important and appreciated. We are blessed to have a leadership team in our Board of Trustees who are always thinking ahead while managing the present. They are amazing! Please take a moment to thank them for their hard work! To that end they will be thinking about the next period of time beyond just the year we are entering, and they will be engaging the congregation in this thinking as well. When I asked you in April what you desire from and for this place (see my April 17th sermon at www.uumh.net), it was a serious question. I hope you have been thinking about it!

On May 15th we will be having a “Bring A Friend Sunday” sponsored by our Membership Committee. They, too, have been working hard on our behalf and now it is our turn – each of us – to take some action steps. I hope you will invite a friend or relative or acquaintance to our service that morning, either in person or on Zoom. I am sure that Membership has more information elsewhere in this newsletter for you about the day.

[Lazaro Hernandez and Jack McCollough](#) write, “We crave what we consider beautiful, and that craving can easily develop into desire, which in turn becomes the fuel that propels us into action. Beauty has the power to spawn aspiration and passion, thus becoming the impetus to achieve our dreams.” As we enter into this month of natural beauty, of color and sunlight and growth, may we think, too, on the beauty that surrounds us in the UU Meeting House here in Chatham – the physical beauty and the beauty of friendships, of voices lifted together in song and celebration, of hands reaching out in love and support, of all that we have created here and all that is still to be done. May that beauty come alive for us as we set our minds and hearts and spirits to dreaming of a beautiful tomorrow together.

Blessed be.

Reverend Tracy



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Membership Minute: Bring a Friend Sunday!

By Liz Van Wye, Membership co-chair

Sunday May 15 is "Bring a Friend Sunday" at UUMH. It is our opportunity to introduce a friend or neighbor to our welcoming UUMH community.

It's often said that many people are UUs, but don't know it. The best way for our neighbors to find out about us is through us, the members of UUMH. With our hybrid, format you can all attend in person or online. The service that morning will focus on who we are and what we are all about.

Don't know how to go about inviting a friend? Here's a simple email that could be shared.

The Unitarian Universalist Meeting House in Chatham is a place where we work to be an inclusive caring community and where we advocate for justice and equity in support of free minds and spirits. This shared journey to find our own spiritual truths and answer life's difficult questions keeps us together in community. If you want to learn more, you are invited to visit us at 819 Main Street Chatham Sunday May 15 at 10:30 am. Or join us for services on Zoom by clicking on the link at www.uumh.net. Come as you are!

Questions about membership? Go to www.uumh.net to learn about the path to membership or ask Bonnie Brydges or Liz Van Wye, Membership co-chairs. We are stronger as a community together!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

We are delighted to be in the Sanctuary each Sunday. Where we would love to see more of you fill the pews. Masks are still mandatory. We do miss you all on Zoom where you can see each other but you're not "with us." John Raye has purchased for the church long handled baskets to collect the offering without anyone having to touch the money.

There has been a problem with some of you on Zoom with the audio. This is what Jaiden had to say about the problem. "-an issue with the audio is likely on their end of things, not ours as I consistently monitor the audio exactly as it comes through Zoom during the service (so if there is an issue on our end I will hear it). I would recommend that participants try turning their volume up and make sure any external audio devices are connected properly if they cannot hear."

Looking forward to seeing more you in person on Sundays



GROUNDSCEEPERS WANTED

Our talented crew of groundskeepers (Barbara Hanrahan, Lisa Evans, and Steve Keenan) have all moved away. We are looking for new recruits to care for our grounds. Our plantings are generally low maintenance, but they do require some pruning and trimming during the year. This is a great job for summer residents. If you are interested, email Joe Zahka at joseph.zahka@verizon.net.

Learn to pause occasionally or nothing worthwhile will catch up with you.

OUTREACH COLLECTION FOR MAY

The Social Justice Committee has chosen the Cape & Islands Veterans Outreach Center for our UUMH May Outreach collection.

The Center is located in Hyannis and offers many services to local veterans. Included are a Food Pantry, Counseling, Housing Assistance for both permanent and transitional housing, and Mental Health support.

CHANDLER CHERON

Gail Eldredge and Joan Caputo, on behalf of the RE Committee and Social Justice Committee are announcing a May collection for a congregational gift for Chandler Cheron who is graduating from Monomoy HS and is planning to attend UMass Amherst this fall. He is a great student and has played on the basketball team. The kids from Haiti were really amazing in our church school and music programs, and we have followed them with great interest for the last few years.

Gail Eldredge and Joan Caputo are collecting donations to purchase UMASS sweatshirt and pants as a graduation gift from UUMH. Please see them or send them a check. He will graduate on June 6. If you would like to send him a graduation card, his address is 718 Main St Apt 2B Harwich, MA 02645



BOILER REPLACEMENT MEETING

The Meeting House has two gas-fired boilers in the attic that feed a recirculating hot water system which provides heat to the entire building. These boilers are twelve years old and are near the end of their life. In addition to corroding aluminum heat exchangers, the electronic control systems are now unreliable, resulting in a building that is too cold or too warm. Three vendors and the manufacturer do not recommend attempting to repair the existing boilers. Two replacement boilers with stainless steel heat exchangers will cost us about \$25,000. The money for the replacement boilers can come from our Reserve Fund.

There will be a special meeting following the service on May 8 to approve the purchase of new boilers. During the meeting, I will explain why the boilers should be replaced, why gas-fired boilers are a better option than electric heat pumps, and the financing of this project.

If you have any questions, you can reach me at joseph.zahka@verizon.net.
Joe Zahka, B&G Chair

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.

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.

This month: the Jensen Pastoral Care Fund

This fund was set up several years ago by Fred Jensen in honor of his first wife Marilyn. It is available, per his wishes, for use of the Pastoral Care Team to support their work. It has been used to send cards to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries or to express sympathy. It has helped with the cost of a Memorial Service collation or even the rental of a space for such a collation when the Thrift Shop is in residence! Special small financial assistance on a personal basis may also be approved by the committee. Other expenditures are certainly possible and are dependent upon Pastoral Care Team approval.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN WRAPPING UP

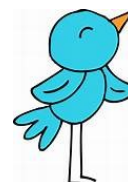
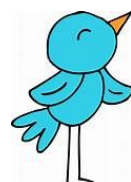
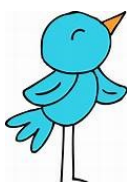
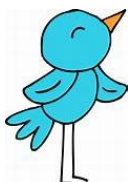
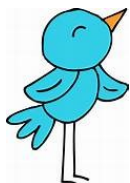
The Pledge Campaign has been reminding you about sending in your pledge cards for a month now. Ralph would like to finalize the campaign by mid-May at the latest, so PLEASE return your Pledge Card if you have not already done so.

Many thanks for helping to keep the Meeting House vibrant and full of possibilities.

**SMALL GROUP POSSIBILITIES**

If you have been thinking about joining a Small Group or just visiting one to see if it's for you, here is a list of the current groups with their facilitators and the days and times that they meet. Feel free to be in touch with one that you think might suit your needs.

Beth Avery	1st Thursday at 10:30AM
Priscilla Smith	1st Tuesday at 6:30PM
Sue Bauer	1st and 3rd Tuesday s at 10:00AM



Take time to come home to yourself every day. (Casarjean)

BOOK DISCUSSION WITH REVEREND TRACY

"The Darkness Divine: A Loving Challenge to My Faith" by the Rev. Dr. Kristin L. Harper uses poetry, prose and lived experience to explore the challenges of racism for people of color in our faith.

Discussion group began in February, but you can still join us. Read Chapter 7 and use the link in the Eblast to join us on April 27 at 10:30AM

IN MEMORIAM

**Bob Raymond
1924-2022**

Service was held April 23



**The sympathy of the
congregation is extended to
Beth Avery on the death of
her sister Roslyn Fishbaugh.**



**Memorial Service
for Fred Jensen
will be held at UUMH
on May 14 at 2 PM**

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Jarvis McMillan
1932-2022
Member of UUMH**



COMMUNITY NEWS

Open Mic Classical Online
3rd Sunday of each month**Next:** Sunday, May 15th, 2022 / 3pm**Sign Up:** open to classical musicians of all levels and ages (Call : 774-353-0244 or email: openmicclassical@gmail.com)**Featured Guest:** Carl Gutwoski, flute
Carl's journey back to performing—from Open Mic Classical to Carnegie Hall—was featured in the [Cape Cod Times](#) in March 2020.

To connect to our Online Zoom Open Mic Classical use our direct link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82454083651?pwd=WkVJOEUwRysxeXJvb3I0cDZacStLdz09>

or

Meeting ID: 824 5408 3651

Passcode: OMC

For more information visit our website: <http://www.openmicclassical.org>

THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB

The Third Monday Book Club will meet on Monday May 16 to discuss *The Jane Austen Society* by Natalie Jenner.

Contact Mary Parsons for location or with questions.

marypmac@comcast.net / 432-7194

PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

May Birthdays

16	Merylle-Lee Thompson
20	Julie Dykens
21	Steve Shorey
24	James McClennen
27	Tracy Johnson
28	Joan Konopka

**May Anniversaries**

26 Stephania and James McClennen

June Birthday

2 Joyce Sterling



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. If anyone is interested in joining the group you can tune in from any location.

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>