

NEWS FROM THE HILL

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MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Raushenbush talk	1
Month of Sundays	2
Minister's Message	3
Fleck Award	4
July 4th on the Lawn	4
2023-2024 UUMH leaders	5
Social Justice	6
Osprey Point	6
Flowers	6
Note from the Treasurer	7
Search Committee	7
In Memoriam	7
Thrift Shop	8
Who's New	8
Boy Scout News	9
Bits and Pieces	10

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
next month is THURSDAY
July 27. Send items to
Sue Bauer: Ralphb1234@cs.com



THE PROMISE OF DEMOCRACY VS RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush, President of the Interfaith Alliance and a frequent commentator on civil rights and religious issues in national news media, will speak on "The Promise of Democracy vs Religious Intolerance" on July 5 from 5:30 - 6:45 at UUMH.

Raushenbush will discuss the history of religious freedom in American and focus on the current threat that White Christian Nationalist ideology poses to democracy. An ordained Baptist minister, Raushenbush is also a lifelong Chatham summer resident.

A leader in the interfaith movement, Raushenbush works to protect an inclusive vision of religious freedom for people of all faiths and none. As the great-grandson of the first Jewish Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis and great-grandson of Baptist theologian Walter Rauschenbusch, a key figure in the Social Gospel movement, Raushenbush's commitment to interfaith advocacy comes in part from his own interfaith background.

Raushenbush also serves as host of State of Belief Radio, Interfaith Alliance's weekly radio show and podcast. He previously hosted Huffington Post's podcast "All Together" where he interviewed a diverse array of guests working at the intersection of religion and politics, including President Jimmy Carter, Patti Smith, RuPaul, Bishop T.D. Jakes, and Rabbi Jonathan Sacks.

Author Anne LeClaire will moderate the event, which includes a talk back discussion following the presentation. Reservations for this free event, which can be attended in Zoom or in person, are required in advance. A free will offering for the Interfaith Alliance is encouraged. For more information and to sign up, go to www.uumh.net.



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Rev. Tracy Johnson
arevtracy@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

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ftoppa440@gmail.com

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bookkeeperchatham@gmail.com

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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

July 2 My worldwide Journey through the Theatre Alan Rust

A look at how the Theatre has sought, not only to entertain, but to inspire human awareness of the significance of change in my life and hopefully others.

July 9 A Lost Art Rev. Tracy Johnson

In these times of confusion and contention, it's nice to know that we have tools we can fall back on that spread kindness and a generosity of spirit. Join us as we gather together in spiritual practice that will lift our souls.

July 16 The Low Plants Rev. Tracy Johnson

I love the mosses and lichens! What can we learn from these ancient plants?

**July 23 Shall Christian Nationalists Win? The Critical Role of
Congregations In Protecting Our Diverse Democracy
Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush**

Text from Christian Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13. How our spiritual and religious communities can be locations where our democracy is preserved, diversity is celebrated, and the discipline and power of love is practiced in our personal and public life.

July 30 Losing Our Religion? Rev. Tracy Johnson

Statisticians say we are losing our religion in America. What's that all about? Is it even true?

Who's Preaching

Alan Rust served as Artistic Director of the Monomoy Theatre on Cape Cod for 39 years and made this theatre a summer home for the Hartt School Theatre Division. As an actor he has appeared, among others, at the Hartford Stage, The Cleveland Playhouse, and the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival. He has directed over one hundred productions. For the past two years he has been the artistic director of the Cape Cod Shakespeare Festival in Chatham. After 50 summers of working in Chatham, he and his wife Jan are now year-round residents.

There will be music performed by singers in this year's CCSFC Company; Henry David Silverstein of Eastham and Sadie O'Connor of Centerville with Pianist, former Monomoy Theater Music Director Philip Ritner,

Dear Ones, All –

Summertime, and the living is easy . . . well, not exactly! It is vibrant and full and ripe with all the things summery that we love the Cape for. There is an ease to it if we can allow it, but it could be that wintertime is easier in many respects. The Meeting House welcomes home those who are away for the rest of the year, and we realize that we are not so small after all. This month we have two special events that open us up to the wider community. And there will be more before the season winds down. We will say our bittersweet goodbyes to a beloved member. Our Board no longer takes the summer off, tending to the important work of building sustainability for us. And intermingled with all of that, we do our best to soak up the natural beauty that surrounds us.

I write today from Pittsburgh where I am attending Ministry Days and General Assembly. This morning I attended a spiritual practice of Lectio Divina with poetry, led by a colleague – that practice of hearing a poem read through several times and noticing what stands out, what we feel, what invitations we experience as a result. And the word paradox came up more than once – those parallel paths of seeming opposites that life is made of. Work and play. Activity and rest. Immersed and spacious. Joy and sorrow, woven fine, as the poet says. All of it, all the time. Not one or the other. There is a richness to life that we miss out on when we categorize and separate, deny the interconnectedness of it, the interdependence, each piece reliant on another to bring it into balance.

I've heard a lot about the value of our interdependence as people and as congregations on one another in these times, heard that if we are not about keeping the flame of Unitarian Universalism burning brightly – collectively and collaboratively – we will not survive and more importantly, we will be doing a disservice to our hurting world in these very scary times. So, my fire is being rekindled here and I hope to bring that fire back to all of you as we enter a year of thinking about how we can sustain ourselves and our faith here on the hill and in the wider world.

May your summertime be made up of all the things summery that are meaningful to you. I look forward to being with you and sharing in the joy of the season.

Blessed be.
Reverend Tracy



FLECK AWARD 2023

Beth Avery, a Past President of the Meeting House, Chair of the Nominating Committee, Chair of the Outreach Committee, Facilitator of a Small Group, and our Photographer Extraordinaire, was awarded this year's Fleck Award for service to the Meeting house and the Community.

WELL DESERVED**CONGRATULATIONS****FAMOUS UUS ON THE LAWN**

There will be some special people visiting the front lawn of the Meeting House at 819 Main Street on the 4th of July this year before and during the town's Fourth of July parade.

Come listen to Pete Seeger sing, hear Beatrix Potter talk about her life, and other famous UUs. Find out what they were thinking and why.

Meet some contemporary people with similar insights and opinions. Share your thoughts with us.

We hope to see you there.

One filled with joy preaches without preaching. (Mother Teresa)

UUMH OFFICERS FOR 2023-2024, ELECTED JUNE 18, 2023

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Jenni Makihara
Ed Mangiafico

Submitted by

Beth Avery, Chair of Nominating Committee



SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Social Justice Committee is continuing to support the needs of a wide variety of causes. For the month of July, the community outreach will be the Housing Assistance Corporation. HAC provides a wide variety of services including rent/mortgage assistance, four homeless shelters, outreach services for homeless living on the streets and woods, as well as assistance in building new housing. As we plan ahead for the 2023/2024 calendar, we would appreciate suggestions from the congregation of local and Cape-wide organizations that we could target on a particular month.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Monday, July 17th at 1:30 p.m. If you are interested in getting involved in helping to identify and support Social Justice causes, please let Robin Hubbard, davrobhub@comcast.net know so you can be added to the email list.

Robin Hubbard, Chair



OSPREY POINT

It's summer and, therefore, time 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 new and old friends. It is a beautiful, peaceful place. Bring your cameras and/or your binoculars.

Watch the Eblast for further info on our July gathering, set for Monday, July 17. Call Sue Bauer (945-3264) or email (ralphb1234@cs.com) for more information

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.

Hope to see you there at one of our favorite spots.

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!

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

The Meeting House will be closing its fiscal year on June 30. We will have more income than expense by at least \$11,500. How does that happen? It happens because of you.

Pledge income will meet the budget of \$100,000. While most have fulfilled their pledges, a few were not able to, but several members gave more than pledged, allowing us to meet the budget. Plate is \$3,500 over budget because many of you put money in the plate, send checks to the office, or make donations online. The building is being rented again. The Thrift Shop will be \$16,000 over budget. Thank you to all the Thrift Shop workers.

Expenses were in good condition as well because we continue to be frugal with few unbudgeted expenses. Mortgage payments were \$6,000 over budget because we paid down the principal. We purchased an automatic defibrillator. We gave Rev. Tracy a \$2,500 bonus in appreciation for the leadership she has given us. Other expenses like Wayside Pulpit signage, summer music, flowers, and outdoor plantings have all been donated rather than purchased.

I will post a complete report on our website in July after the close of the fiscal year.
Joe Zahka, Treasurer

MINISTERIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The search committee continues to prepare for the engagement of a contract minister to take over the ministry of the UUMH at the end of Rev. Tracy's service in June of 2024. Between monthly meetings members are working on a profile of the congregation, congregational survey, learning the UUA process for selection of ministers, and researching needed information. Once the survey is ready it is expected that information will be collected in several ways, including an electronic version, a paper version, and also through discussions in small groups. You will have an opportunity to voice your opinions on the survey later this summer. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of the committee; contact information is in the directory.

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



IN MEMORIAM

Joan Konopka
1936-2023

Memorial Service at UUMH July 22 at 11am



Life is long if it is full. (Seneca)

THRIFT SHOP UPDATE



The Thrift Shop is breaking records!! Super sales numbers, great merchandise, so many compliments from our customers.

But, with all that success.....we need your help!! Need summer clothes, especially dresses; jewelry always welcome, as are housewares. Remember, all those sales leave holes to fill on the racks and the shelves. Bring your donations any day the shop is open. And then, **stay** to shop!



WHO'S NEW

Betsy Gill joined the Meetinghouse in May after several visits. She grew up in Collins, Connecticut, as one of 4 children. As a precocious student, Betsy decided to do the same school assignments as her sister who was 2 years older.

She was drawn to mathematics when attending Marquette University and Framingham State where she got her masters. For the next 33 years Betsy taught high school mathematics in Plymouth, a job she loved. During that time, her husband, Grantham, who studied with and worked for Frank Lloyd Wright, designed their home in South Chatham where Betsy currently lives. She is a prolific reader and recently joined the UUMH Book Club. Betsy has one son who works for the Defense Department in Washington, DC.

MISSION STATEMENT

Nurturing inclusive community

Seeking justice and equity

Encouraging free minds and spirits

SCOUT SCUTTLEBUTT

This is the first installment of the “Scout Scuttlebutt.” I intend to keep the UUMH family informed of the activities and accomplishments of our own **Cub Pack 71 and Scout Troop 71**. Exciting things are happening, and I am very hopeful that they will continue to happen for a very long time.

The very first order of business is to thank the **UUMH Board of Trustees** for agreeing to Charter **Boy Scout Troop 71 and Cub Scout Pack 71**. **Troop 71** has been continuously chartered for *102 years*, and the **Pack 71** for *75 years*! What a wonderful way to support our community by continuing this homegrown tradition!

On June 10, 2023, **Chatham Cub Scout Pack 71** held its annual Pine Wood Derby competition. Each boy in the Pack used a standard Pine Wood Derby kit as a base and carved, decorated, and embellished their car with the assistance of their parents under the direction of **Cub Scout Leaders Thadd and Marija Eldredge**.

The following boys participated in the event. Pictured on the left: Myles Martyn-Crawford; Luka Eldredge; Adrian Hercun; Orion Yates; Elija Leighton; Cub Leader Thadd Eldredge; and Boy Scout Xavier Hercun.



Also, on June 10, 2023, **Chatham Boy Scout Troop 71** held a **Court of Honor**. The awards were presented by **Life Scout Paul Carlson** under the direction of **Scout Master David Carlson**. Each award represents a well-earned accomplishment by each boy as they advance through the ranks of the Boy Scout path to Eagle. **Troop Committee Chair, Judy Carlson** has done an incredible job of tracking the various Boy Scout requirements for each boy. Pictured on the right: Xavier Hercun; Luca Bresciani; Jake Terrio; Ben Mills; Paul Carlson; and Kyle Martyn-Crawford.

Plans are being formulated to hold a **Cub Scout** rally to begin the re-organization of the **Pack** during July (Date to be determined). The sad news is that Covid left a void in the succession of boys through the stages of **Cub Scouts**. The good news is that several parents are willing to work with me to regenerate **Cub Scout Pack 71**.

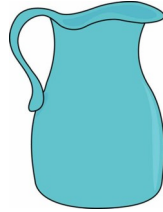
I appreciate all of the work each of these leaders has done to keep these **Scout Units** active during some challenging times, and I especially thank **UUMH** for “stepping up to the plate” to become the requisite **Chartering Organization**.

Gail Eldredge

REFRESHMENTS

Looking for a volunteer or two to set up juice and water on the porch Sundays after church. Call Sue 945-3264

Looking for a volunteer to provide simple nibbles for same. Email Pavia senorasangria@yahoo.com



PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

July Birthdays

- 8 Jim DeVoe
- 12 Steve Keenan
- 14 Edith Mayfield
- 15 Carol Lewis
- 21 Valerie Mowbray
- 22 DJ Foley



July Anniversaries

- 3 Cathy and Steve Kent
- 8 Kathy and Jon Nye
- 14 Julie and Jeff Dykens
- 16 Gail and Terry Eldredge
- 28 Jackie Venner and Steve Keenan

DO YOU ENJOY PLAYING 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, or in the case of Eastham their building 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 at CAYeaple@live.com.



BRANCHING OUT

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

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