

NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM
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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

July 21. Send items to

Sue Bauer: Ralphb1234@cs.com



DOLLY HOWELL

2022 FLECK AWARD WINNER

**SUPERB WORSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR
HOSTESS SUPREME
YARD SALES AND POT LUCKS
TERRIFIC ORGANIZER AND CLEANER
AND SO MUCH MORE**

See also p. 5



STAFF MEMBERS

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arevtracy@gmail.com

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ftoppa440@gmail.com

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Joe Zahka, Treasurer

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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

July 3 Let Freedom Ring Rev. Tracy Johnson

We hear a lot of talk about freedom these days. What do we mean by that, and how does it manifest itself in our lives?

July 10 Changing the Narrative For Effective Communication And Action On Gun Violence Donna Wald

Donna Wald, President of Grandmothers Against Gun Violence will speak on her group's mission

July 17 Poverty Redefined Rev. Tracy Johnson

Spurred on by life experience, public radio, and notions of a better way, together we will explore alternatives to the age old poverty line.

July 24 What's in Your Box? Part One Rev. Tracy Johnson

In our shared ministry here at UUMH we recognize that we all have something to add to the mix. Today we will take another look at the concept of shared ministry and how it can move us forward as a vibrant congregation here in Chatham.

July 31 Civic Engagement: Responsibility or Luxury Dr. Madhavi Venkatesan

Civic engagement by the few can determine the regulations that affect us all, and it is their prevailing perspective that confers legitimacy on the outcome. Dr. Venkatesan will discuss examples highlighting how small groups have influenced regulation and social norms, and how this has been to the benefit and detriment of society, starting with slavery and up to most recent SCOTUS decision on June 24 overturning Roe v. Wade.

WHO'S PREACHING

Madhavi Venkatesan, PhD is a faculty member in the Department of Economics at Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts (US). She is the editor-in-chief of *Sustainability and Climate Change* and the executive director and founder of Sustainable Practices Ltd., a Cape-based non-profit focused on pro-environmental action and education.

Dear Ones, All –

Summer is upon us as I begin my second two-year contract with the UU Meeting House of Chatham! Two things to celebrate! We are blessed by our incredible surroundings here in Chatham and on the Cape. This is so whatever the season, but seems especially so during the summer months. Our beaches and ocean breezes and hiking and biking trails are made for summer fun. I hope that you are taking some time to enjoy these gifts in our midst.

When I became your Sabbatical Minister in January of 2020, I had no idea that I would be in this position with you two plus years hence. My path in ministry has always been one of believing that doors will open and close, and mine is to enter through them with wonder and anticipation, receiving what is offered and bringing to it whatever gifts I can. It is a tactic that has not disappointed yet!

We begin this church year with a full plate at the Meeting House. The time has come for us to take a serious look at where we stand as a viable Unitarian Universalist community here in Chatham. It may seem that we are charmed in some ways as things always seem to work out for us, but this is not a realistic strategy for moving into the future. When I say that doors open and close, I don't mean that I just sit idly by waiting for things to happen for me. And so, I don't want to imply that this is what we should be doing either!

I am one to test the waters. Whenever we go to a beach or pond somewhere, my first instinct is to dip my toes in. The water either welcomes further steps in or cautions that this might not be the time. What I am suggesting here is that we also need to be willing to test the waters – think together about how to approach the various issues we face, take a step or two into the unknown and see how it feels. You can only tell so much about the water by looking at it from a distance and speculating, and sometimes unexpected results await us if only we would take the plunge. The face of “church” is changing in general and if we are to remain relevant to our times, we need to be ready to make change also. There are many models of what we call church out there and exploring what those ideas hold, even if just to examine them for creativity's sake, to spark our own curiosity and move is into the realm of what is possible is a worthwhile endeavor.

May this season of our time together be one of resting into the gifts of time and place that embrace us. May it be for us, too, a time of exploration and recognition of the sacred potential that exists all around us. Take a dip into the water!

Blessed be.

Reverend Tracy



THRIFT SHOP



We are having an incredibly successful summer!! Obviously, we would like to continue this!! **REMEMBER** that the Thrift Shop provides a lot of needed funds to the Meeting House. Help keep our dream and our mission going. Your participation is **GREATLY** appreciated – donate, volunteer, **BUY!!!**



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!!

The way to combat falsehoods is with truth. (William O. Douglas)

SOCIAL JUSTICE OUTREACH FOR JULY AND AUGUST

JULY: Each Christmas the Meeting House generously supports the Angel Fund, providing a happier holiday for a local family. But the needs continue throughout the year of course. Especially in the summer when free school lunches, for example, are not available. The July Outreach collection, therefore, will be the Chatham Children’s Fund to help support local children and their families who are struggling with food insecurity and other essentials.

AUGUST: Heads up: 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 . 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 22nd as more and more schools are starting before Labor Day. They will be filling the packs the week of August 15th so early donations would be welcome.



FLECK AWARDS catch up

It has been a strange few years and one of the things that fell through the cracks **was the recognition of Judy Reed as a recipient of the annual Fleck Award.** With apologies, here is a picture of Judy receiving a belated Award at this year’s Annual Meeting. Congratulations Judy – **Well Deserved!!**



THE GATHERING AT OSPREY POINT

By the time you read this, the women's group, The Gathering, will have met for the first time in several years at "Osprey Point."

We gather at 5PM once a month 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 July gathering.

All women connected to the Meeting House are invited. Call or text Charlotte Edgecombe for info at 508-221-0533

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!



IN MEMORIAM

The sympathy of the Meeting House
Is extended to Julie Dykens
On the death of her sister.



PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

The 2022-23 Pledge Campaign is officially over! A GREAT BIG thank you to those who have so generously pledged to help the Meeting House continue to thrive and grow and have an impact on the community and world around us.

Ralph Bauer, Pledge Chair

UUMH OFFICERS FOR 2022-2023 as Elected June 19, 2022

Board of Trustees

Ed Mangiafico, President
Jon Nye, Vice President
Danielle Jeanloz, Secretary
Joe Zahka, Treasurer
Greg Heyl, At Large
Naomi Turner, At Large
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**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 Carol Ann 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. 10th in order to be involved. It's fun and a nice way to meet new people.

Be not simply good; be good for something. (Thoreau)



WOW!!!!
PHOTO BY BETH AVERY



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

Jaiden Van Bork, our Sunday tech person extraordinaire, graduated in June from Nauset. She will be with us this summer and some of the fall before she heads off in January for Brandeis.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

James and Stephania McClennen’s new address:
P.O.Box 1236 / 4 Cover Landing Rd.
Harwich, MA 02645

David Veach’s email: dave@candymanor.com
His cell: 274-551-6198

Naomi Turner’s cell: 508-320-1465. Her email remains the same

PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

July Birthdays

- 3 Jackie Hebert-Beale
- 8 Jim DeVoe
- 12 Steve Keenan
- 14 Edith Mayfield
- 21 Valerie Mowbray



July Anniversaries

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

August Birthdays

- 1 Jean Needel
- 2 Janet Jansson



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 . Contact Gail Tilton @ gmlilton@capecod.net

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.



BYLAWS

A new and revised set of Bylaws for the Meeting House was approved at the recent Annual Meeting. You will be able to access them on the website, uumh.net, very shortly.