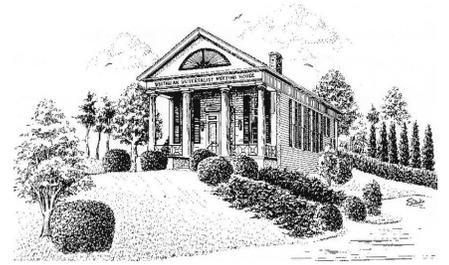


# NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.  
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM  
PO BOX 18 CHATHAM MA 02633  
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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**  
March 24. Send items to  
Sue Bauer: [Ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:Ralphb1234@cs.com)



## SOME EXCITING NEWS

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

The Board of Trustees has discussed the ministry for the years following Rev. Tracy's initial contract which ends on June 30, 2022.

All felt that we have enjoyed and been fortunate to have Rev. Tracy Johnson with us. This has been particularly true during this important period in our congregational life. Therefore, the Board wants to maintain her leadership and talent as we move forward in building and strengthening this important community.

Rev. Tracy, with her understanding of our congregational needs and her dedication to it, has agreed to go from a half time to a three quarter time position. This will mean that she will be in the pulpit three times per month during most months beginning in July 2022. Rev. Tracy will have discretion to use her time for pastoral care and other needs of the congregation as she sees fit.

The contract is thus signed to cover the next two years, ending July 2024. We are fortunate to have this inspiration and leadership to grow and strengthen our congregation.



**STAFF MEMBERS**

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Joe Zahka, Treasurer

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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**

**March 6      Why Can't We All Just Get Along?**  
**Chuck Madansky and Wilderness Sarchild**

Chuck Madansky and Wilderness Sarchild will lead a service on how to work through conflicts that arise in meetings and interpersonal relationships. This service will be followed up by a workshop on Conflict Resolution for congregation members on Saturday, March 19, from 1-4 PM (details to follow).

**March 13      UUSC - Justice Sunday      UUA Video**

**March 20      Balancing Eggs      Rev. Tracy Johnson**

Myth or reality? Is there really a state of perfect equilibrium to be tapped into?

**March 27      "Oh, the Places we'll Go!"      Rev. Tracy Johnson**

Where are we now? Where are we headed? What will it take to bridge the two? Lessons from a time of study and learning.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Who's Preaching**

Wilderness Sarchild and Chuck Madansky are longtime members of First Parish Brewster UU, where they are Worship Associates and serve on the Right Relations Team. Chuck and Wilderness are both psychotherapists and consultants in conflict resolution and meeting facilitation.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

Dear Ones, All –

I am happy to write this month that, “It is official!” “What,” you may ask, “is official?” On Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> I met with your Board President to sign a new contract to be your three-quarter time minister through June of 2024! This means that beginning in July of 2022 I will be with you on Sunday mornings three times per month and that I will have some additional time to spend getting to know you better as persons and members. It is a privilege to be invited by your Board to stay on in this expanded capacity, and I look forward to working with you over the next two-plus years. There is much to be done to ensure that the Meeting House can sustain itself into the future as a viable Unitarian Universalist community of faith in Chatham. It will require us to stretch ourselves, to be imaginative and to consider our relevance in the world in which we live. I am up to the task, and I hope that you are, too! There is so much potential here!

I am looking forward to our upcoming Conflict Resolution service and workshop, helping us better prepare ourselves to be in relationship as we go about our work together. I continue to think about the idea of covenant in terms of right relationship, the core of justice in our midst. Thinking about how we do together what we do together is no less valuable than doing it. Perhaps it is even more so. I hope that you will join the conversation!

As we prepare to kick off our annual pledge drive, we will have an opportunity to hear from folks about what UUMH means to them, why it is so important, and why they contribute in all the ways that they do. Each of us can be searching ourselves for answers to the same questions as we consider how best to support the ongoing work of this community. How valuable is this place, are these people, is our faith tradition to you? The answer may be “priceless,” but I hope that doesn’t keep you from giving serious consideration to what it takes to keep things flowing smoothly at UUMH, to keep us staffed, and to maintain our beautiful space.

I will be taking a time of respite this month from the 4<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. You are always on my heart wherever I am, though! My dear colleague, the Rev. Bill Clark, will be available for pastoral emergencies in my absence. Look to the eblast for contact information.

I am excited about the prospect of spending this extended time with you all, about the ways we can look creatively toward the future, and about the important work we can accomplish together. Grounding ourselves in the reality of what is, looking ahead to what can be, and making a plan to bridge the two: this is our journey. May it be blessed and blessing, both.

In faith –  
Reverend Tracy



### ENDOWMENT BOARD MESSAGE

Now that the 2021 income tax season is upon us, many will be reviewing their statements from our Treasurer, documenting their individual contributions to the UUMH during the preceding year. For some, changes to the tax laws will have limited the opportunity to receive a tax benefit based on those contributions.

If that is the case, a tax-saving measure in connection with next year's (2022) taxes may be useful to some. That measure, known as a "Qualified Charitable Distribution" (QCD), may be available to anyone who takes a distribution from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) during the current year. Normally, any distribution from an IRA is taxable to the recipient as ordinary income. If some or all of that distribution is paid directly to a charity by the IRA custodian, however, that amount will not be deemed income, and will not be subject to any tax. In that circumstance, the charity (the UUMH, whether in the form of your pledge or contributions to the Endowment Fund or other funds), benefits fully from the gift, and the donor (you) will have a reduced tax bill next year.

The Endowment Board cannot properly give anyone tax advice, and individual circumstances may always differ, but members of the Board wanted to share this information, and to urge anyone interested in knowing more about this or similar opportunities to consult their tax advisor.



### SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

**OUTREACH FOR MARCH** will be donated to the Housing Assistance Corp. (HAC) This organization supports the homeless, those in shelters, and those who are involved in efforts to find permanent housing. It is Cape Cod's leading housing coordinator.

The Social Justice Task Group coordinated and led the MLK Jr service in January. We focused on the ongoing efforts in areas of inequality and inequity that are the true memorials to King's life and work.

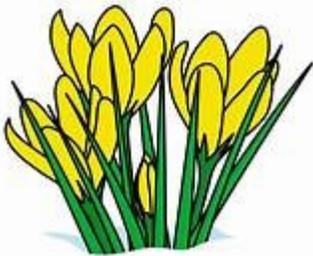
**Moderation is the key to lasting enjoyment. (Hosea Ballou)**

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

### Sharing Why We Joined

by Liz Van Wye, Membership co-chair

There are a host of different reasons why members join UUMH. Twenty of them are now part of a colorful graphic posted on our website [www.uumh.net](http://www.uumh.net) and on social media, thanks to the Outreach committee and KD Ryan, our social techie artist. Did you participate in the Membership Committee's index card survey in October "I joined UUMH because...?" If so, then your answer is likely part of this impressive group. No identifying information is included. Each quote is on a vivid jewel tone background color, with the UUMH logo, a riveting display that shares the benefits of UUMH Membership. When you have a chance, go to [www.uumh.net](http://www.uumh.net) and check it out! Better yet, share it with a friend!



## 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 late February, but you can still join us. Read Chapter 3 and use the link in the Eblast to join us on March 2.

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

You have probably noticed that when you come on to the zoom service on Sunday you are muted. This is because we are trying to eliminate the interruption of people coming on later in the service when they aren't muted. You may unmute yourselves from 10:10 -10:30 to allow for conversation before Frank starts his music. Then mute your conversations as his music starts. Thank you.

We are heading back into the church on February 27th and will be having a hybrid service from then on. We are excited to have with us for the first Sunday in March, Wilderness Sarchild and Chuck Madansky with the topic of "Conflict Resolution". This will be followed up with a workshop on Saturday, March 19th from 1:00-4:00. The next Sunday we will have a UUA recorded service. Rev Tracy will be with us for the last 2 Sundays being refreshed from her vacation in a warmer climate.



**In Memoriam**  
**Fred Jensen**  
**1932-2022**



**The sympathy of the  
congregation is extended to Beth  
Avery on the death of her sister  
Roslyn's husband, Jim Fishbaugh**

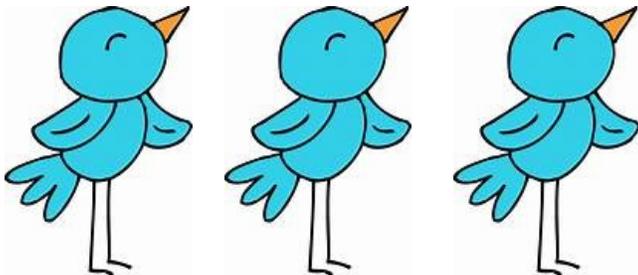


**He who is contented is rich (Lao-tzu)**

**DIRECTORY CHANGES**

Edmund Robinson and Jacqueline Schwab's new address: 10 Sylvia Street, Lexington, MA 02421

**Remember to SPRING AHEAD on Sunday March 13!! Don't miss out on the Sunday service that morning !!**



**THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB**

The Third Monday Book Club will meet on Monday March 21.

Contact Mary Parsons for book title, location or with questions.  
 marypmac@comcast.net / 508-367-0714.  
 All are welcome.



**PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE**

March Birthdays

- 2 Emma Eldredge
- 10 Barbara Blanchard
- 12 Helen Smith
- 12 Ralph Bauer
- 13 Jane Moffett
- 16 Jane Eccles
- 22 Eric Riley
- 24 Marija Eldredge
- 28 Geri Appleyard



March Anniversary

- 8 Joan and Joe Caputo

April Birthday

- 1 Ann Wallace

April Anniversary

- 1 Tracy and Chuck Johnson



**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 @ [gmitilton@capecod.net](mailto:gmitilton@capecod.net)