

# NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.  
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM  
PO BOX 18 CHATHAM MA 02633  
JULY 2021 VOLUME XIX NUMBER 7

508-945-2075



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Celebrate our Reopening!	1
Month of Sundays	2
Minister's Message	3
E-Blast Notice	4
Thrift Shop News	4
President's Message	5
Social Justice Committee	5
Membership Minute	6
Worship Service Committee	6
New UUMH Bulletin Board	6
UUMH Officers	7
Bits and Pieces	8

### "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

July 22. Send items to

Sue Bauer: [Ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:Ralphb1234@cs.com)



## CELEBRATE



On July 11, 2021 the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House of Chatham will again begin in-Sanctuary Services as part of our goal to provide true hybrid participation in a safe setting for all.

We will require masks for all at present time, realizing that changes may occur as the pandemic abates.

We can accommodate 28 socially distanced seating locations for persons or family groups. This limitation will require reservations for locations via an email system to be communicated at a later date. The sanctuary will be professionally cleaned at regular intervals between services.

The new audio/video system will allow both Zoom and in-person attendees to have equal experiences. There will be no singing at present, but Frank will provide music on four of the Sundays this summer. Videos will be shown on our new 75" screens over the front doorways thanks to Joe Zahka's work. Greeters and ushers will be present to assist with seating and questions. The lift will be in service.

Please consider whether at present you prefer to continue the Zoom format or to join us in the Sanctuary. It has been a long haul, and we are excited to offer the new in-person option this summer. Cheers!



**STAFF MEMBERS****MINISTER:**

Rev. Tracy Johnson  
arevtracy@gmail.com

**MUSIC DIRECTOR:**

Frank Toppa  
ftoppa440@gmail.com

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY:**

Charlotte Edgecombe  
Edgecombe@comcast.net

**Board of Trustees**

Ed Mangiafico, President  
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****July 4****Join with other UUs**

Your opportunity to join another church's service. Links will be sent to connect with other services.

**July 11****Homecoming****Rev. Tracy Johnson**

Today we will celebrate the meaning of home as we begin to move back into our Meeting House.

**July 18****Widening the Circle****Rev. Tracy Johnson**

A joint service with Rev. Tracy and members of the Widening the Circle of Concern book study. What did we learn, and what does it mean for us going forward?

**July 25****Borrowed Time****Rev. Tracy Johnson**

Some of us feel that we are living on 'borrowed time' these days. How does the concept of time affect how we live and move through our days?

**OUR NEW MISSION STATEMENT****Nurturing inclusive community****Seeking justice and equity****Encouraging free minds and spirits.**

Dear Ones, All –

And so, it begins! As we enter into this second year of shared ministry together, we do so with confidence and purpose and a joy in knowing that we will be seeing a little more of one another in the coming season. Our Annual Meeting displayed a real sense of a whole body united in continued movement through transition and change to a place of renewed openness and inclusion. We have a new mission statement – “Nurturing inclusive community; Seeking justice and equity; Encouraging free minds and spirits.” None of these are new ideas! They have been at the core of who we are for a long time now. Presented in a clear succinct statement, they serve as a touchstone in our decision making and as an invitation to those beyond our walls who do not know us yet.

We are looking forward to returning slowly to the Meeting House this month; a ‘soft opening’ as we adjust to new technology and to being in the company of others. It is an emotional and celebratory time. Safety remains our highest priority, and you will read more about the ‘how’s’ of our gathering elsewhere in the newsletter. Many thanks to our Re-Opening Task Group, chaired by John Raye, for all the thoughtful work that has gone into this. It will be my delight to deliver our service on July 11<sup>th</sup> from the pulpit for the first time since my contract with you began!

Our new beginnings include a search for a new Communications Coordinator in the office and a Tech Assistant for Sunday mornings. Our Board of Trustees has four new faces, and I am excited to work with this group for the good of the congregation. We can trust the leadership experience and the creativity of these folks as we share together in shaping the future of the Meeting House. Even as some of our committees take a much needed and well-deserved pause over the summer, the work of UUMH is ongoing. We are blessed with loving and dedicated souls at the helm.

Beginning July 5, I will be in the office on Monday and Wednesday mornings, and will be available at other times by appointment. Given the relaxed safety protocols, I am also planning to resume in-person pastoral care visits, so if you are unable to get out and would like me to stop by, please call to arrange a time.

My wish for you in this season is some time for family, time to enjoy our beautiful Cape Cod surroundings, a sense of healing and wholeness, and opportunities to reconnect with this faith community.

Blessed be.

Reverend Tracy Johnson



**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**DURING JULY AND AUGUST, PLEASE EMAIL YOUR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE WEEKLY EBLAST TO SUE BAUER AT [RALPHB1234@CS.COM](mailto:RALPHB1234@CS.COM).**

**EMAIL YOUR MATERIALS BY FRIDAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MONDAY EBLAST. ON THE SUBJECT LINE, WRITE “UUMH EBLAST FOR MONDAY (ADD THE DATE)”**

**THANKS**



The Thrift Shop is open and doing a booming business!!! You can help make it an even bigger success!! Bring your donations on Mondays from 10-2 to the Fleck Room. Volunteer for a 3 hour shift or as a sub. Come and **SHOP!!!** Tuesday-Friday 10-3. Questions—call Mary Parsons at 432-7194.



**Happiness depends on ourselves. (Aristotle)**

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I know we are all looking forward to the new hybrid services in our Meeting House this month. The plans and execution set up by John Raye, Joe Zahka, and their teams is wonderful. This will be the beginning of an exciting congregational year with no pandemic, an inspiring minister, a chance to be together in person and on screen. I have been so impressed and stimulated by the creativeness, energy, and commitment of so many in this community of members. I am looking forward to working with all toward the positive opportunities we can now realize. I hope anyone with questions, ideas, or concerns will contact me any time:  
email: [e.mangiafico@comcast.net](mailto:e.mangiafico@comcast.net) and phone: 508-221-5206.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

#### Two Opportunities for Generosity from the Social Justice Committee

**\*\*Our designated Community Outreach organization for the months of July and August is the Chatham Children's Fund which provides support to local children and families who struggle with food insecurity and other essentials.**

**\*\*Another possibility is the chance to help the family below. Many of you might remember that Tony spoke to us a few years ago one Sunday morning.**



Above is the N'Tumba/Sifa asylum family, Tony, Joelle and daughter Pearl, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, now living here on Cape Cod. Tony's work as a photojournalist for the United Nations, exposing the truth of abuse and tyranny in his country, led to his imprisonment and torture by government officials. With help from the UN, Tony was able to escape and come to the USA in 2015. The Refugee Support Action Team of the Nauset Interfaith Association, and others, met Tony and Joelle shortly after she was reunited with him in 2018. In 2019 their daughter Pearl, then aged 7, was brought to join them on the Cape with a special student visa. Pearl is a student at St. Pius School in South Yarmouth. In 2019 the Refugee Support Action Team of NIA established the Pearl Fund to help support this asylum family, who came here without any monetary resources, but with much love, faith and hope for making a new life here on Cape Cod. Pearl has thrived at St. Pius, and Tony and Joelle both have full time jobs. Tony has a part-time second job, as well as seeking to build up his photojournalism profession. Unfortunately two bouts of surgery for Joelle has saddled the family with large medical bills. We hope that we can help them pay off that medical debt and assist them in securing citizenship. Both of these goals require significant funding. If you can, please send your contribution, made out to the Nauset Interfaith Association with memo: Pearl Fund, and mail to NIA, c/o Fr. Ken Campbell, Box 306, South Orleans, MA. 02662. Contributions are tax-deductible. Questions? Contact The Rev. Rod MacDonald at [rodmac.ret@gmail.com](mailto:rodmac.ret@gmail.com) or Fr. Ken Campbell at [ksbcampbell5050@gmail.com](mailto:ksbcampbell5050@gmail.com).

### MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

A stable or growing membership is key to the long term health of our Meeting House. The newly reconstituted UUMH Membership Committee consists of Dick Eccles, Robin Hubbard, Kathy Nye, Judy Reed, Bonnie Brydges, Jean Mangiafico, Laurie Noble, Gail Eldredge, and Dave and Liz Van Wye, co-chairs. We are working on preparing to greet members and friends in the hybrid service format and putting together guidelines for greeters.

We also want to ensure that all members have a printed nametag for in person attendance. If you find your nametag has "gone missing," please let one of us know so we can reprint one for you.

We are working closely with the Unitarian Universalist Association to ensure our membership materials reflect both local and UUA-wide information. Our focus will be on recruitment of new members, engagement of existing members to strengthen community, and retention of all members through appreciation and support.

The Membership Committee regular meeting is on Zoom, 3rd Thursday at 10AM. Next meeting July 15. We welcome ideas and volunteers!

### WORSHIP SERVICE COMMITTEE

We are all looking forward to July with our new format of Virtual and In Person Services. We managed the Virtual now on to the Hybrid. See page 1 for details on this change. Exciting times ahead!

Dolly Howell, Chair



### UUMH BULLETIN BOARD

This will be a new and occasional column. Do you need help? Is there something you are looking for or looking to dispose of? Do you want to talk to others in our community about their recommendations and experiences with anything from doctors, cleaners, gardeners, or stores carrying just that thing you are looking for? Do you need a ride somewhere or a chore done?

Often, the Pastoral Care Team can jump in and help, but other times, a simple question just needs a simple answer. You might have just the right answer to something that has been a thorn in someone else's side.

Think about it and let me know if you would like to post anything here. Call or email me and we can figure out how to best get you answers and/or results! (Sue Bauer 945-3264, [ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:ralphb1234@cs.com))

AND HERE IS THE FIRST REQUEST FOR HELP!! Joanne Arnold (and her dog, Aster) is looking for someone to occasionally walk her small dog. She lives in Chatham, near the Meeting House. If you could help her, once or several times, please call her at 774-893-3081.

AND THE FIRST "DO YOU NEED" Can anyone use a roll of black landscape fabric for their planting/gardening projects? Call Sue Bauer at 945-3264.



**UUMH OFFICERS FOR 2021-2022****As elected JUNE 20, 2021****Board of Trustees**

President	Ed Mangiafico
Vice President/ Designated Secretary	Mary Parsons
Treasurer	Joe Zahka
At Large	Greg Heyl Danielle Jeanloz Naomi Turner Liz Van Wye

**Program Council Chair** Sue Bauer**Moderator** Jeffrey Dykens**Endowment Board**

Chair	Dave Van Wye
Member	Sally Davol Jeffrey Dykens Jon Nye Margaret Tompsett

**Nominating Committee**

Chair	Beth Avery
Member	Bonnie Byrdges Joan Caputo Jane Eccles Debbie Zahka

**Nothing can bring you peace but yourself. (Emerson)**

### JOYS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Congratulations to Emma Eldredge on attaining High Honors at Chatham Middle School.

### DIRECTORY CHANGES

Please use Ann Wallace's cell phone exclusively:  
508-241-0036

### MEDITATION GROUP

Our Meditation group is meeting every Saturday at 9:30 Via Zoom.  
Email Gail Tilton at [gmtilton@capecod.net](mailto:gmtilton@capecod.net) or call Joan Konopka at 945-2141 for more info.



### THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB

The Third Monday Book Club will meet on Monday July 19 to discuss *This tender land* by William Krueger. Please contact Mary Parsons for location or with questions. 432-7194 / [marypmac@comcast.net](mailto:marypmac@comcast.net). All are welcome for one book or many.

You can also start reading now for August: *A woman of no importance* by Sonia Purnell; for September: *Monogamy* by Sue Miller; and for October: *The splendid and the vile* by Erik Larson.



### PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

#### July Birthdays

- 3 Jackie Hebert-Beale
- 8 Jim DeVoe
- 12 Steve Keenan
- 17 Fred Jensen



#### 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

#### August Birthdays

- 1 Jean Needel
- 2 Janet Jansson

### THINGS TO REMEMBER

\*\*\*\*\* Consider mailing a check to the Meeting House each month to cover the amount you would contribute to the Offering each Sunday, if you will continue to Zoom. Thanks.

\*\*\*\*\* When you send anything to the Meeting House through the mail, please remember that the address must be the Post Office Box, not the street address. **The PO Box is Box 18.**

