

NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.

MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM

PO BOX 18 CHATHAM MA 02633

508-945-2075

APRIL 2017

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is published monthly year round by
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Editor: Susan Bauer
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Publisher: Andrea Pluhar

SUNDAY SERVICES are
held at 10:30 AM each week.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE next
month is **THURSDAY,**
April 20. Send items to
Sue Bauer: Ralphb1234@cs.com



Making Your Annual Pledge will Put a Spring into Your Step!

March 26 marked the kick-off of our 2017-18 Annual Pledge Drive, and we are relying on everyone to help us raise \$146,300 by the end of April.

We promise that giving generously will put a spring into your step – one that comes from knowing you’ve done your best to help sustain UU Chatham for our 31st year.

It would be fantastic if we could get the financial side of things wrapped up nice and early every spring, so that the rest of our year can focus on the things we all really enjoy about being members of UU Chatham: good times spent in loving fellowship, thought-provoking discussions, and satisfying activities that promote social justice.

While no one likes to ask people for money, that’s just what your Stewardship Committee is tasked with doing. So when you receive this year’s appeal letter and pledge card, please give as liberally as your circumstances allow, and drop it off or send it in as soon as possible. Your financial support is essential to the continuation of our Meeting House, and every contribution matters.

Please rest assured that in setting the coming year’s budget, the Trustees and Committee Chairs worked diligently to keep expenses as low as possible, and they have increased spending only where absolutely necessary.

Your Stewardship Co-Chairs, Ralph Bauer and Kathy Cole and Stewardship Committee Members Joe Zahka, Beth Avery, and Edmund Robinson



STAFF MEMBERS**MINISTER:**

Rev. Edmund Robinson,
edmund@uuhm.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Frank Toppa, ftoppa440@gmail.com

UUYOUTH:

Gail Eldredge, gailandterry@c4.net

COMMUNICATION COORD.:

Andrea Pluhar, chathamuu@gmail.com

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Melissa Clayton, uumh@uumh.net

SEXTON:

Ralph Bauer, ralphb1234@cs.com

Board of Trustees

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 Bob Rice, Vice President
 Dolly Howell, Secretary
 Joe Zahka, Treasurer

At large members:

Bonnie Brydges
 Danielle Jeanloz
 Judy Reed

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**April 2****Mud Room Messiness****Rev. Edmund Robinson**

Nature is not neat, which is why we have mudrooms. But we are not neat either, which is why we also have garages and basements and overflowing desks and file cabinets. Spring cleaning is upon us, time to clear our souls of the spiritual clutter which has accumulated over the winter months.

April 9**What UUs bring to the Resistance Party****Rev. Tom Schade****April 16****Love Conquers Death!****Rev. Edmund Robinson**

The widest view of the Easter story, which is also the spring story, is that life goes on. Not individual life, but the life of species. And the engine of life is love.

April 23**Terror Firma: Earth Day Alarm****Rev. Edmund Robinson**

According to a new poll, 70% of Americans now believe that climate change is real and carbon dioxide is the principal cause. Yet people do not connect this knowledge with specific phenomena like wildfires in Kansas. What will it take to wake us all up?

April 30**Poetry Sunday****Rev. Edmund Robinson**

A celebration in honor of National Poetry Month. Attendees are invited to bring well-loved poems under 3 minutes in length and read or recite them in the service.

Who's Preaching this Sunday

Tom Schade is a retired UU minister who lives in Pawtucket, RI, with his spouse, Sue. He served the First Unitarian Church of Worcester for 13 years before he retired at the end of 2012. He writes a blog, The Lively Tradition at www.tomschade.com, where he explores the intersection of UU theology and current events. He has two daughters and four grandchildren and is the spiritual director to two small dogs, who listen carefully to everything he says, and then do what they want anyway.

Sightings**the Rev. Edmund Robinson**

Sunday March 26, a delegation from the UU Meeting House will have our second meeting with a delegation from First Parish Brewster, our parent congregation. Recently Beth Avery passed around a set of notes from the first meeting asking what we wanted to emphasize at the second, and our treasurer Joe Zahka, ever concerned with the overall sustainability of this place, zeroed right in on the central issue: how can the two congregations partner to grow the number of Unitarian Universalists in this part of Cape Cod?

Of course we welcome people who are already UUs somewhere else who choose to retire to the Cape's elbow; if they keep up their church involvement, they are likely to choose one of our two congregations. But what about those who retire here with no prior UU involvement? What about those who have been here for a while, whether or not retired? What about those in the workforce – teachers, social workers, firemen? Can we put ourselves on their mental map by our actions and words in the public spaces of these communities?

Actually I think that the question may be slightly askew. We're not trying to "make UUs" of anybody; we're inviting people to join with us in our ongoing work in the community. We don't ask anyone to recite a creed or swear a loyalty oath. We try to meet people where they are in their lives.

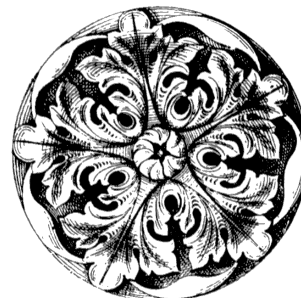
Yesterday, a new avenue opened up to make this corner of the world a better place for those who come here from abroad. A group has formed to advocate for sane and humane policies on immigration. It is called the Cape Cod Coalition for Safe Communities. I went to a meeting March 21, and there were people there from 6 or 7 towns on the Cape. That evening, a couple from the group succeeded in getting the Dennis selectmen to adopt the group's proposed policies, and the vote was unanimous! I hope that we can influence the other towns in the area to similar measures.

We have finally received about \$30,000 from the estate of our late member, Sally Duplaix, which has been deposited in the Endowment Fund per her wishes, but which is earmarked for use in Social Justice and Learning for Life. I want to challenge all of us to come up with some good uses for that money so that it can do some good in the world.

Blessings,

Edmund

Please Note: Jacqueline and I will be making a quick trip to England to see our grandson April 3-11



FREEDOM FORUMS AND FACTS MATTER FORUMS

The **Freedom Forums** will continue for two more meeting in April. April 1: the Due Process Clause, and April 15: the Equal Protection Clause. Meetings are 10:30 to 12, you do not have to have attended prior meetings.

New series: Facts Matter Forums

Building on the success of the Freedom Forums, these will be meetings devoted to specific policy areas in which the national administration is proposing large changes in national policy based on certain readings of the facts. In each forum, we will attempt to get knowledgeable people to give us the current state of understanding, including debatable points, in each area to allow intelligent citizens a basis to research matters for themselves.

The areas include climate change, incarceration crisis, immigration, policing and public safety, school vouchers, global trade, voting rights, transgender rights, religious freedom vs. discrimination, and government support of arts, science, culture. The meetings will probably be on Sunday afternoons in the sanctuary beginning in May. Anyone who wants to help organize this, to suggest speakers or additional topics is welcome to communicate with Edmund.



SKEPTIC'S GUIDE TO AMERICAN HISTORY, CONT.

Merylle-Lee Thompson is continuing her series on American History based on the Great Courses DVD series. Join the group on Fridays in the Fleck Room at 12:30 for interesting DVDs and even more interesting discussion on the history of our country and what it can tell us about the events and politics of today.

April 7: Andrew Jackson: an odd symbol of democracy and The 2nd Great Awakening

April 14: Slavery and the Civil War. Causes and turning points of the conflict

April 21: The myth of laissez-faire and Misconceptions of the original populists.

Questions ? Contact Merylle-Lee Thompson 945-3860.

Common sense is very uncommon. (Lord Chesterfield)

UU YOUTH

A huge thank you to everyone who donated books to fill our bookcase for a Habitat family. We are still waiting to hear exactly when the dedication and presentation will be.

During March we learned about the Buddhist traditions of prayer flags and refuge from Jen Makihara. Thank you to Jen for sharing her knowledge and and for her patience.

We are now ready to turn our attention to spring. Our group will be considering the relationship between science and religion with Bob Zaremba. We will also have a “mini” Seder to explore the Jewish Holiday of Passover. After the April school vacation, our UUYouth will be working with experienced gardeners to create a container/hydroponic vegetable garden that will allow members of our church school families to come to the UUMH to pick fresh vegetables over the summer.



SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE - TOGETHER AGAIN!

Come one, come all!!! The newly re-constituted Social Justice Committee will meet in the Fleck Room on April 11 at 2PM. Up for discussion will be projects and causes of interest to those attending with the intention of involving everyone at the Meeting House with something they are passionate about.

So, if your passion is the Plymouth Power Plant, the Congregate House in Chatham, economic justice, gun control, racial justice, Habitat, climate change, addiction, mental health, Calmer Choice, or any of a hundred other ideas about how to make this a better planet to live on, please plan to attend and be heard.

Questions?? Call Walter Diggs at 432-0437.



THE GATHERING

Second Monday of the month except in May (3rd Monday) at 7:00 pm
All women in the Meeting House, friends and members alike are welcome.
Call Charlotte Edgecombe for more information 508-398-8516

April 10 Discussion: “What did you love to do as a child and how did it influence your choice of a career (or possibly not).”

APRIL POT LUCK

Save the date: **April 22** in the Fleck Room at 5 PM. Share dinner with a great group of new and old friends, and join us for a terrific new game created by our own Beth Avery. Promises to be a lot of fun!

**UPDATES FROM BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

1. To make our Meeting House more welcoming to visitors, we are adding "Visitor Parking" signs to our parking lot. Two of the "Sunday Handicap Parking" signs will be moved to driveway behind the building. Those using the Sunday handicap parking spaces on the driveway can access the building by the ramp to the portico.
2. At the June 2016 meeting, the congregation voted to let the lawn go brown. The sprinkler system was never turned on last year and the lawn certainly went brown. The good news is that the lawn only needed one mowing per month last summer. The bad news is that the portions of the lawn that face due south died. That makes approaches to all entrances of the building unattractive. Not a good situation if we are trying to attract new people to our Meeting House.

The Building and Grounds Committee proposes to turn on the sprinklers in the areas of the lawn on the south side of the building near the steps and near the entrance to the lower level. We think with a minimum of water we can reestablish the lawn and let it go brown in the summer without letting it die.

You can give your feedback to Ralph Bauer or Joe Zahka.

The Memorial Service for John Redfern will be held on Sunday April 2 at 1:30 PM

The sympathy of the Meeting House is extended to Stephen and Sally Davol and their family on the death of Stephen's mother, Eleanor, on March 4.



Nothing astonishes men so much as common sense and plain dealing.

HOSTS AND USHERS FOR APRIL AND MAY 2017

Pastoral Care – Ann Diggs - April 2
 Learning For Life - Judy Reed - April 9
 Ladies Lunch - Sue Bauer - April 16
 Board of Trustees - Beth Avery - April 23
 Finance Committee - Joe Zahka - April 30
 Music Committee - Joan Caputo - May 7
 SGM - Brenda Collins - May 14
 Worship Service Committee – Dolly Howell - May 21
 Membership - Marion Harcourt - May 28



Today we had a little spring! We should be thankful ! It has been such an up and down winter this year, so typically for Spring on the Cape. Everyone has been so helpful with delicious coffee hour treats. Thank you so much. I just want to remind you all that if your committee is short-handed for your Sunday look around and see who hasn't been assigned duties but enjoys the goodies and ask them to help when it is your turn. We all should help in some way. You might see if anyone is left standing alone and needs a "hello" and introduce yourself. We all are really membership committee and everyone is welcome.

Stayed tuned for a date in May for our Spring Cleanup!
 Dolly Howell

CONGREGATE HOUSE SUPPERS

Calling for Volunteers to Assist with Preparation of Meals for Congregate Housing -- 2017 Schedule

For the eleventh year the Social Justice committee has agreed, with six other Chatham churches, to share the task of providing a Sunday meal by volunteering to cook and serve simple meals to 14 to 18 senior residents of Chatham's Congregate House.

Congregate Housing offers a shared, affordable living arrangement to elders and disabled adults with supportive social and health services needed to assist individuals to live independently. Congregate living promotes socialization with shared spaces, along with security and privacy to continue living an independent lifestyle.

The UUMH has been assigned its share of Sunday dates for 2017 as follows. April 23, June 18, July 16, September 10, October 8, November 19, December 17.

The meal preparation, all food provided, takes place in the kitchen of the Congregate Housing apartments. Each volunteer crew includes at least one experienced volunteer along with two helpers and someone who volunteers to contribute homemade goodies for dessert. Meal preparation and cleanup usually lasts from 3:30 to 6. Meal must be on the table at 5pm for the residents. The residents really appreciate these home cooked meals.

Talk with either one of the Co-Leaders below or sign up on the list provided during coffee hour.

Jackie Hebert Beale, P.O. Box 386, North Chatham, MA 02650 (jahberh1@comcast.net) 945-2131

Barbara Waters, 64 Meadowbrook Road, North Chatham, MA 02650 (bwaters14@comcast.net) 945-3631

The next meal is April 23. One more volunteer is still needed. Please call Barbara Waters if you can help.



On March 19th we enjoyed a Corned Beef dinner to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Thanks to Dolly Howell and Mary Chestnut, Jackie's assistants extraordinaire, all enjoyed the celebration. It is a pleasure to interact with the residents who are always pleasant and fun.

WRINKLES

World Premiere of "Wrinkles, the musical" written by Naomi Turner and Wilderness Sarchild with music by Grammy Award winner, Jason Howland, Cape Cod recording artist Sarah Burrill, and musical director, arranger, and composer extraordinaire Malcolm Granger, directed by Nina Schuessler, choreography by Naomi Turner and friends at Cape Cod Theatre Company, home of Harwich Junior Theatre May 11 - June 11. Tickets now on sale. Visit our website at wrinklesthemusical.com.

Consider making a UU night of it....or organize a group for the Sunday 4 pm matinee. It's raucous, it's real, powerful, engaging and empowering!



SPRING



Tea at Three

Cape Cod Hospital Auxiliary's tea will be held on Sunday April 30 at 3:00 PM at the Chatham Community Center. A lovely formal tea with sandwiches and sweets and beautiful china tea pots and cups and saucers. Entertainment will feature a one act play directed by our own Elsa Bastone.

Tickets are \$30, and all proceeds go to the hospital.

Call Sue Bauer at 945-3264 for tickets.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Steve and Betsy Henry's new address is 8906 N. Valgrind Lane / Tucson, AZ 85743

Anastasia Conley's new address is 17 Tom's Way / Chatham / 02633 (change from Konli)

Her email is AnastasiaConley@comcast.net

Harriet Wilson's new address is Brookdale-Ravenna, Apt. 333 / 141 Chestnut Hills Dr. / Ravenna OH 44266. Her phone is 330-839-7532

Bobbe Bernard's phone is 508-348-1285

Dwight Wilson has changed to the following number: 508-776-3157

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Bearly Used Thrift Shop will be opening on May 22 this year, offering many opportunities for UUMH friends and members to join in the fun. This year women and men can sign up to help any weekday. Our hours will be 10-3, but you can choose a morning or afternoon or both. You may contact our committee members, Janice Bianculi, Joyce Devoe, Liz Sjogren, or Deb Zahka if you have any questions. On the other side, if you have been considering reducing the items in your house that you no longer use, they might be just what we are looking for. Don't be shy, we have a lot of fun and raise money for the Meeting House at the same time.



STOP AND SHOP Cards

Stop and Shop cards are available from Mary Chesnut before and after Sunday services. These are the same as cash when you are shopping, but also benefit the Food Pantry.

PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

April Birthdays

- | | |
|----|----------------|
| 1 | Ann Wallace |
| 2 | Jan LaBelle |
| 3 | Harriet Wilson |
| 5 | Suzanne Reed |
| 7 | Cil Rice |
| 7 | Sally Davol |
| 8 | Connie Pina |
| 19 | Jean Raymond |



April Anniversaries

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 5 | Suzanne Reed and Liz Sjogren |
| 5 | Ralph and Sue Bauer |

Harriet Wilson celebrates 100!!!

UUMH LIBRARY

Last chance before books go into storage for the summer !!

Remember the UUMH library off in the corner of the Fleck Room. Lots of thoughtful and thought-provoking books are available for loan.



FOOD PANTRY

Non-perishables are always welcome.

Note that there is now a box attached to the food pantry basket which invites your monetary donations rather than food if this works for you. All money will go directly to the Food Pantry.



THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB

The Third Monday Book Club will meet on Monday, April 17 to discuss *The secret river* by Kate Grenville.

Newcomers always welcome, for the year or just for a particular book. Call Mary Parsons 432-7194 for more information.



April 2017

April 2017

May 2017

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
13	2	3	4	5	6	7
14	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
16	23	24	25	26	27	28
17	30					
18						

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
18	1	2	3	4	5	6
19	7	8	9	10	11	12
20	14	15	16	17	18	19
21	21	22	23	24	25	26
22	28	29	30	31		

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13	Mar 26	27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1
							10:30am 12:00pm Freedom Forums
14	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9:00am 10:00am Choir Practice (Sanctuary) 10:30am 11:30am Service (Sanctuary) 1:30pm 2:30pm Redfe	12:30pm 1:30pm Staff Meeting (Minister's Study)	10:00am 11:00am Rothenburger Small Group Ministry (Off-site)			12:30pm 3:30pm Skeptic's Guide to Am. Hist. (Fleck Room)	
15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	9:00am 10:00am Choir Practice (Sanctuary) 10:30am 11:30am Service (Sanctuary)	12:30pm 1:30pm Staff Meeting (Minister's 3:30pm 5:00pm Program Council (Fle 7:00pm 9:00pm The G	2:00pm 3:00pm Social Justice (Fleck Room) 2:00pm 3:00pm Worship Committee (Fleck Room)	12:00pm 2:00pm Ladies Luncheon (The 400, East Harwich)	1:00pm 2:00pm Membership Committee (Fleck Room)	12:30pm 3:30pm Skeptic's Guide to Am. Hist. (Fleck Room)	10:30am 12:00pm Freedom Forums
16	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	9:00am 10:00am Choir Practice (Sanctuary) 10:30am 11:30am Service (Sanctuary)	10:30am 12:00pm Third Book Club (An 12:30pm 1:30pm Staff 1:00pm 2:00pm Third 7:00pm 9:30pm Collins	10:00am 12:00pm Rothenburger Small Group (Off-site)	9:00am 10:00am MUUGS (The Fairwa 2:00pm 4:30pm Pastor 2:00pm 3:30pm Publici 6:00pm 9:00pm Priscill	10:00am 11:00am Finance Committee (Fleck Room) 3:00pm 5:00pm Learning for Life (Fle	12:30pm 3:30pm Skeptic's Guide to Am. Hist. (Fleck Room)	5:00pm 8:00pm April Pot-luck
17	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	9:00am 10:00am Choir Practice (Sanctuary) 10:30am 11:30am Service (Sanctuary) 3:30pm 6:00pm Congr	12:30pm 1:30pm Staff Meeting (Minister's Study) 2:00pm 4:00pm 4th Monday Small Group		3:30pm 4:30pm Building & Grounds (Fleck Room)		11:00am 12:00pm Exhibition ends (Fleck Room) 1:30pm 3:30pm Board of Trustees (Annex)	
18	30	May 1	2	3	4	5	6
	9:00am 10:00am Choir Practice (Sanctuary) 10:30am 11:30am Service (Sanctuary)						

Celebrate our Unitarian Universalist faith through inspired worship, music, engaged learning, fun and fellowship. Meet the 2017 UUA Presidential Candidates. Sing. Reflect. Feel. Make connections. Awaken your spirit

New England Regional Assembly 2017

Fri, Apr 21, - Sat, Apr 22,

Woburn/Boston Hilton Hotel

2 Forbes Road

Woburn, MA 01801

uua.org/new-england



General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to send voting delegates.

UUA General Assembly 2017

Wed, June 21– Sun, June 25, New Orleans, LA

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

900 Convention Center Blvd

New Orleans, LA

Steeped in a history of influences from Europe, the Caribbean, and Africa, New Orleans is one of America's most culturally and historically-rich destinations. Many UUs have contributed time and funds in the effort to rebuild New Orleans after the catastrophe that was Katrina. By going to New Orleans, we can both celebrate our successes and recommit to the [relationships](#) that have been forged with this community

uua.org/ga