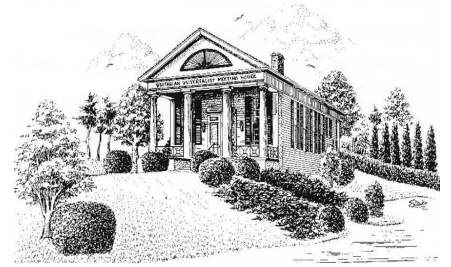


# NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.  
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM  
PO BOX 18 CHATHAM MA 02633  
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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Farewell and Thanks	1
Month of Sundays	2
Minister's Message	3
Book Study	4
Worship Services Committee	4
Endowment Board	5
Social Justice Committee	5
In Memoriam	6
Outreach	7
Website Features	7
Submitting News Items	7
Computer Corner	8
Bits and Pieces	8

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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**  
February 17. Send items to  
Sue Bauer: [Ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:Ralphb1234@cs.com)

## A FAREWELL AND THANK YOU TO JANE AND DICK ECCLES

Recently UUMH said thank you to longtime members Dick and Jane Eccles, who are moving to New Jersey. In the midst of packing, the couple reminisced about some of the highlights of their 25 plus years at UUMH, starting with standing on the porch of the Meeting House in 1996 to celebrate the purchase of the congregation's new home in Chatham.

The Eccles especially enjoyed their years in the UUMH choir, singing soprano (Jane) and bass (Dick), starting when Harmon Diers was the director and then under current music director Frank Toppa.

Jane, an artist who paints primarily in oils en plein air, is also an award-winning pastel artist and an internationally known papermaker. She often generously donated portions of the proceeds of her work to support UUMH. Her work is on display at the Cape Cod Museum of Art, among other museums and private collections.

Dick served as Board President from 2012 through 2016 and oversaw a number of key projects during that time, including the installation of a handicap lift and an organ, the renewal of the RE program, the hiring of a Communications Coordinator and the development of a financial reporting system. He also headed up the Worship Services Committee for many years and wrote and delivered a half dozen or more sermons.

The Eccles can continue to be reached at the email addresses in the directory.



**STAFF MEMBERS**

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arevtracy@gmail.com

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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**

**February 6 Call it Forth Rev. Bill Clark**

What is it that we call forth in a typical Unitarian Universalist service? Is it a theistic god or a Pagan goddess? Is it Buddha nature or Scientific theories?

**February 13 The Look of Love Rev. Tracy Johnson**

We know what it feels like to love and be loved, but what does love look like in the context of our faith, on both the macro and the micro levels?

**February 20 Permission to dance Anne LeClaire**

How a late-in-life passion for Tango became a lesson in the possibility of finding joy regardless of one's life circumstances.

**February 27 Nurturing Inclusive Community Rev. Tracy Johnson**

This is the first tenet of our mission statement. Today we will take a deeper dive into what that means.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHO'S PREACHING**

**Reverend Bill Clark** has served our UU Congregations in Houston, Texas, Lexington, MA and Martha's Vineyard. He is now semi-retired and living in Provincetown. He is delighted to be back at the Meeting House of Chatham.

Chatham resident **Anne LeClaire** is the best-selling author of ten novels and an award winning memoir. She leads workshops on the practice of silence and has taught creative writing in France, Italy, Ireland, and Jamaica, as well as throughout the United states. She is a ballroom dancer and says her happy place is Studio 878 in Chatham.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MISSION STATEMENT**

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

“In any given moment we have two options, to step forward in growth or to step back into safety.”

~ Abraham Maslow

Dear Ones, All –

Here we are again at the start of a new year, that moment when we officially move from what was to what will be. We are, of course, doing this all the time, but we mark it with our calendars and make a fresh go of it once every 365 days. It is both a moment like no other and a moment just like all the rest! Maslow says we always have two options: stepping forward in growth or stepping back into safety. Here’s what I want to say about that.

First, stepping back into safety. The year 2021 hasn’t felt so safe for us although we have managed to make it so with our intentionality. Sometimes a step back to take a look at things is a good practice, a balcony view. In those cases, we are doing so in order to prepare ourselves to move forward. Doing nothing is also a step back into safety because we are sticking with the familiar, unexposed to that which might foster growth. It’s a comfortable place that doesn’t require much of us. Vacillation is a choice, a step, and I get it that we may be tired at this point in time in our lives or our journeys or our world. Important though, to acknowledge it and make a conscious decision about it.

Next, stepping forward in growth. What kind of growth are we talking about here? We affirm and promote the encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations, according to our Principles which guide us on our path. The growth that happens within each of us ultimately serves as a catalyst for the rest of us when take it up in community. It is that creative interchange that I am so fond of! Maybe it feels like stepping forward is leaping off an edge that might be scary or dangerous. If one of us is experiencing this, my guess is that more of us are, too, so we can count on another to serve as parachutes when we do what is risky, but for our own good, as individual persons and as a people.

One of the reasons I am called to parish ministry is that I absolutely love moving with a congregation through periods of uncertainty, risk, and growth. We can work together to create a “safe space” in which to do the work of stepping forward into whatever newness a year or a period of our history may be calling us to. We can spend some time discerning together just what might be asked of us by our hurting world, what a people of a certain faith might bring to the table.

Ours is a unique approach to religion, being covenantal people as opposed to creedal. I hope we can spend some time in the coming months exploring what that meant for our forebears in this tradition and what it might mean for us today. What is the safe container that our faith provides and how can we utilize it to the fullest as we embark on a new year in time?

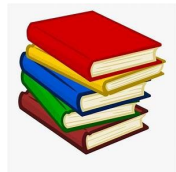
May your New Year’s celebration be all that you intend for such a time. Mine is a time of reflection and planning, reveling in the beauty of the earth in winter and sharing in the warmth and love of those closest to me. What is it for you? May we emerge from this turning with fresh eyes to see our way forward into 2022!

Blessed be.

Reverend Tracy



**Reverend Tracy will be on study leave January 31st - February 4th. She will be available for urgent matters via email, phone, text and zoom.**



### Book Discussion with Reverend Tracy



Order from [www.uuabookstore.org](http://www.uuabookstore.org) or on Kindle.

Please join me!

**"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. Discussions will occur on selected Wednesday mornings beginning in February.



### WORSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE

As the weather has now declared that it is winter, we are looking forward to zooming on two new services that have been organized by Naomi Turner. Rev. Bill Clark will be here on the first Sunday of February. We always have enjoyed the many times he has been with us. Anne LeClaire, one of Chatham's many authors, will present to us her new passion for dance, bringing to us all the realization that we are never too old to learn something new. Rev. Tracy will be in the pulpit every other Sunday.

Since we will probably still be zooming in February there should not be a problem with stormy weather. We just turn on our computers and enjoy the services. The only occasion that this won't work is when we don't have electricity. There be a sign on the doors that we are shut down.

Stay Warm and Stay Well.

Dolly Howell

**Don't forget to love yourself. (Kierkegaard)**

## ENDOWMENT BOARD

### Investing In Your Values

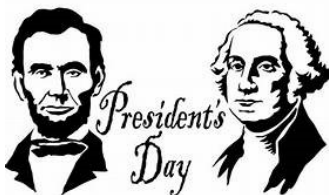
When you make a contribution to the UUMH Endowment fund you have a double impact. First, you support the long term legacy and financial stability of our congregation, and, second, you support our values in a tangible way.

The UUMH Endowment Fund puts money into investments that fit our UU principles. We look for socially responsible investments that emphasize environmental improvement, social justice, or corporations with governance practices that address employee rights and responsibilities, diversity, and ethical policy.

You may make a contribution by writing a check to the UUMH Endowment Fund and sending it to the Meeting House. Any member of the Endowment Board will be happy to answer your questions.

Dave Van Wye for the Endowment Board.

Other members are Sally Davol, Jeff Dykens, Jon Nye, and Margaret Tompsett



## SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Our MLK Service on January 16<sup>th</sup> was well received. The community work day organized by Americorps was postponed until Saturday January 22. In our meetings we have been discussing what we as older people can do to make a difference and reviewed UU Mass Action to join forces with other UUs. They are currently lobbying Beacon Hill lawmakers on a number of issues. Here is an excerpt from their report:

Most of our [bills](#) are still in their Joint Committees. We need our bills reported out of committee with a favorable vote by February, or they will be essentially done for the session. We also have a few bills that have yet to have their hearing. Can you take action using these easy links? (Feel free to personalize if you have time! You can find Fact Sheets in each link as well to learn more).



Email to support three of our climate justice bills here. [LINK](#) (If necessary, press CONTROL button at bottom left of computer keyboard and then click on LINK)

This is a great way for all members of our congregation to become involved and feel they are doing something to make a difference in our environment.



The Safe Harbors family which is seeking amnesty is adjusting to life. here. While they await a court hearing, they are unable to be employed. The father is a carpenter and likely will work as a volunteer on Habitat houses under construction soon. Safe Harbors is happy with the welcome and accommodation on both sides so far.

Margaret Tompsett and Joan Caputo, Co-chairs


**In Memoriam**  
**Vivienne Chapman**  
**1927-2021**




**In Memoriam**  
**Dwight Wilson**  
**1932-2022**



**The sympathy of the congregation is extended to**  
**Dana McCoy**  
**On the death of her father**



**The sympathy of the congregation is extended to**  
**Dolly Howell**  
**On the death of her brother-in-law**



## FEBRUARY OUTREACH

The February Outreach Recipient will be **Calmer Choice**

**Calmer Choice** partners with schools and community organizations to deliver evidence-based mindfulness programs. Our programs teach children and adults skills to increase inner resilience, reduce the impact of stress, manage emotional responses, learn self-control and increase their sense of well-being.

### Recent Outreach Recipients

Therapeutic Riding Stable \$1332

Lower Cape Outreach \$468

## NEW WEBSITE FEATURES!

We are repeating this one more time to remind you of links to our website for each of these features.

**Sermons Page** We now feature a collection of all sermons given by Rev. Tracy Johnson! This is under the "Sunday Morning" tab on the homepage. We also have a page that contains the video recordings of *all* sermons led by Rev. Tracy or our guest speakers.

Video Sermons: <https://www.uumh.net/videosermons>      Written Sermons: <https://www.uumh.net/sermons>

**Past Bulletins** On the "News and Information" tab on the homepage, find our weekly e-blast/bulletins as well as our monthly newsletters. We are now able to feature *past* bulletins and newsletters as well!

Past Newsletters: <https://www.uumh.net/past-newsletters>

## NEW INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING UUMH NEWS ITEMS:

### *Newsletter:*

Email directly to Sue Bauer ([ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:ralphb1234@cs.com).)

Follow schedule written on cover of previous month's Newsletter.

On subject line, write "For Newsletter"

### *UUMH Weekly Bulletin, UUMH website, Facebook*

Email directly to Andrew Staiti ([chathamuumh@gmail.com](mailto:chathamuumh@gmail.com)) with Cc to Sue Bauer ([ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:ralphb1234@cs.com))

On subject line, write "For Weekly Bulletin" (or website or Facebook)

**Keep in mind that all submissions for the Weekly Bulletin need to be sent to Andrew by 6PM Monday or else it will not be featured, as the Weekly Bulletins (e-blasts) are now being sent out on Tuesday mornings.**

**To love others, we must first learn to love ourselves. (Anon.)**

### JOYS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Great article about Andrew Staiti, our Communications Coordinator, by Liz Van Wye in last week's Chronicle.

### COULD YOU USE????

Unopened ink cartridge for Epson printer (Epson 127). If you can use this, please call Sue Bauer 945-3264 or email her [ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:ralphb1234@cs.com) and it's yours!!

### COMPUTER CORNER

- Do you need to find out the difference between which masks to buy?
- Would you like to explore exciting new trails on Cape Cod?
- How about getting great advice on nutrition or meditation?

Be sure to visit our brand new Health & Wellness page on the website at [uumh.net/health-wellness](http://uumh.net/health-wellness). Your health and wellbeing are important to all of us and we are delighted to share articles with you on a variety of topics that might be helpful.

You can also submit articles that you wish to share to this website page by sending an email to: [chathamuumh@gmail.com](mailto:chathamuumh@gmail.com)

### THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB

The Third Monday Book Club will meet on Monday, February 21 at 10AM to discuss *Alternate side* by Anna Quindlen.

Contact Mary Parsons for location or with questions.  
[marypmac@comcast.net](mailto:marypmac@comcast.net) / 508-367-0714.  
 All are welcome.



### PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

#### February Birthdays

- |    |                |
|----|----------------|
| 3  | Joyce DeVoe    |
| 4  | Cathy Kent     |
| 5  | Mary Chesnut   |
| 16 | Joanne Arnold  |
| 19 | Deborah Ecker  |
| 20 | Debbie Zahka   |
| 23 | Laura Peterson |
| 25 | Steve Kent     |
| 25 | Luka Eldredge  |
| 26 | Kathy Nye      |
| 27 | Joan Caputo    |



#### February Anniversaries

- |    |                           |
|----|---------------------------|
| 1  | Betty and Bob Twiss       |
| 1  | Liz and Dave Van Wye      |
| 2  | Marija and Thadd Eldredge |
| 17 | Anastasia and Bill Conley |

#### March Birthday

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 2 | Emma Eldredge |
|---|---------------|



### 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)