

# NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.

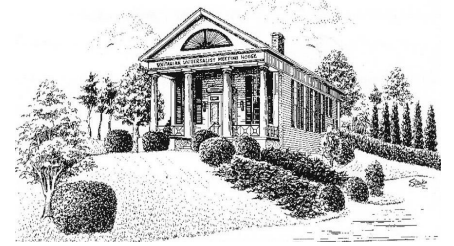
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM

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## "NEWS FROM THE HILL"

is published monthly year round by the UU Meeting House of Chatham.

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

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

next month is **THURSDAY DECEMBER 20**. Send items to Sue Bauer: [Ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:Ralphb1234@cs.com)



## ANGEL FUND

UUMH has been a very generous supporter of the Chatham Angel Fund for several years. This year we have been asked to help two single dad families, each with two children. Basic clothing needs, toys, gift cards, many ways to help.

So, be an angel again this holiday season! Choose a gingerbread man from the tree at the front of the church. Each tag lists a particular gift or a just a dollar sign. If you choose a gift, please wrap it and attach the gift tag to the outside of the gift. Buy washable; choose a larger size if you must choose.

If you would rather make a donation, make checks out to UUMH and give them, or cash, to Melissa Clayton, Sue Bauer, or Charlotte Edgecombe. They will turn your donation into gifts!

Please return your wrapped packages or checks to the Meeting House by Sunday, December 9.

Questions? Please call Sue 945-3264 or Charlotte 394-3360.

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**At large members:**

Walter Diggs  
 Ruth Treen  
 Dave Hubbard

**Program Council**

Sally Davol, 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**

December 2 “Assassination as Public Policy” Rev. Edmund Robinson

We now have the technical ability to kill almost any individual in the world without exposing the killers to any significant danger. Our leaders insist this is not assassination, but what is it? In a democracy, we the people are responsible for actions taken by our government; do we approve of targeted killings under any circumstances, and if so, which?

December 9 “December Nights, December Lights”

Multicultural musical production of the Beacon Youth Outreach.

December 16 “Don’t Let The Light Go Out!” Rev. Edmund Robinson

A celebration of Hanukkah.

December 23 “Tell Them I’m a Child of God” Rev. Edmund Robinson

Isn’t it healthier to approach Jesus’ place in the scheme of things with the attitude that we’re all children of God?

Christmas Eve:  
 December 24 at 5 PM

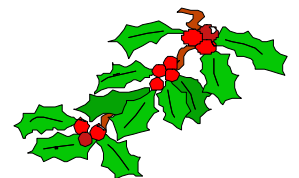
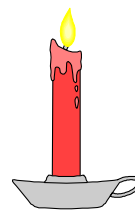
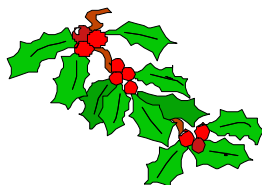
Traditional Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24 at 11 PM

Midnight Christmas Eve wish service. This will be a quiet meditative service with a few hymns and carols and a chance for us all to make a Christmas wish.

December 30 “The Year in Review” Rev. Edmund Robinson

Milestones for our country, our community, our church.



### Sightings the Rev. Edmund Robinson

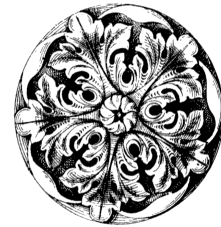
Ken Burns' movie "The Dust Bowl" was a powerful reminder of the worst man-made natural catastrophe in US history. In light of the Meeting House talk by Todd Kelley, the film showed what a hash Americans have made of our stewardship of the land. Before the coming of the settlers, the prairies were covered with buffalo grass, which is well adapted to take the moisture that falls in the region and conserve it, which has the added effect of stabilizing the soil against the great winds that sweep the region. But the buffalo grass was plowed up to plant wheat. That was disturbing enough with small family farms, but as the price for wheat rose, it became profitable for large businesses to move in with more mechanized agriculture and disk plows. This left the land vulnerable to drought and then to wind.

We know a lot more about soil conservation since the Dust Bowl. The green Revolution has taught us how to make the land a great deal more productive and also to conserve it. In a way, we are coming back to the conservation ethos of the native inhabitants of North America, though there are a lot more mouths to feed now.

If we have stabilized the soil, can we stabilize population, and can we stabilize the economy so that we enjoy a reasonable standard of living without depleting the earth's resources? I would like to see mainstream politicians talking about living for the long haul, passing down a sustainable future for our grandchildren's grandchildren. I don't see this conversation happening.

Blessings,

Edmund



### WINTER SOLSTICE AND CONTRA DANCE TOO!

December 22 Solstice Celebration at South Chatham Village Hall.

We will celebrate the solstice with familiar elements such as the Boar's Head and the Twelve Days of Christmas, and then the chairs will be pulled back and we'll have our December contra dance, for those who wish to stay. Those who don't want to dance are welcome to stay and watch.



## DECEMBER HOLIDAY EVENTS



***NEW books for children 3 to 5 years of age in the local Headstart Program.***

Boys books (15 boys in this year's class!!) , trucks, shapes, colors, numbers, science, animals.....  
A collection box will be in the upstairs foyer through December 16.



***Holiday Fair after church in the Fleck Room on Sunday, December 16.***

There will be decorations, note cards, knitted goods, and more, all hand-made. Find a few small but perfect gifts and help the Meeting House as well. 15% of the proceeds will go to UUMH. Table space still available. Call Sue Bauer 945-3264 or Mary Parsons 432-7194



***The Electric Kitchen will also be held on Sunday December 16.***

To all those people who would like to contribute, the theme for December is "Festive and Sweet Holiday Treats". Perhaps Pies, Cakes, Festive Cookies, Jams and Jellies for gift giving, Pretty Coffee Cakes, Candies and Fudge and Truffles. Anything and Everything will be appreciated.  
Call Charlotte at 508-394-3360 to tell her what you are bringing.



***The Gathering will have their second annual Christmas Pizza Party Monday December 10 at 7 PM***

Fun and frolic will be the theme of the evening. All women invited, even if you have not come before.  
Hope to see you all there

### Chickering Piano's New Home

The Music Committee is very happy that our piano is now at home in the living room of the Terraces on Route 28 in Orleans. The Terraces is the home of our long-time members Dick and Phoebe Soule, and our gift is in their honor. On December 18, Ruth Treen will lead a caroling group in holiday songs. If you would like to join the fun, please let Ruth know (432-0046). We will gather at the Terraces at 2:00 for a 2:30 program.



**Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling. (Edna Ferber)**

### SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS

2012 is drawing to a close and UUMH has one last assignment to serve a Sunday evening meal at the Chatham Congregate House on December 23. In the spirit of the season I know I will hear from some of you to give a hand. Thank you. Call Connie Pina to help at 432-3414.

### ALSO SOCIAL JUSTICE.....A REQUEST, AN OPPORTUNITY

This is an open letter to UUMH members .....

I have spearheaded the Congregate House suppers for four years and find that I cannot continue mostly due to the conflicts with my travel schedule. I am proud of this social justice program and appreciate the support of UUMH members. My thanks to all those who have volunteered their time to make this program work. What we need now is a person or perhaps co-persons who will accept the leadership responsibility so that UUMH can continue our participation, thus lending our support to the Chatham Housing Authority. Debbie Joudrey of the Housing Authority is having a meeting of the volunteers on Tuesday, December 4 from 3 to 4 PM. If UUMH cannot continue with the program, this is the time to let her know, before she makes up next year's schedule. **PLEASE** consider this opportunity to help, and call Connie before the 4th at 432-3414

The Captain Bearse Congregate House is located off Crowell Rd. in Chatham and offers a shared living arrangement for about 17 senior men and women. Each resident has a small studio apartment that includes a minimal kitchen. There is a cook on staff who prepares and serves a noontime meal during the week. There is a group that comes in on Saturday evenings to serve a meal that has been left by the cook. On Sunday evenings six Chatham churches have been sending volunteers to prepare and serve the meal. The program has been going on for twenty years. I believe UUMH has participated for perhaps half of that time. There is no cost to us except for a few hours of time on a Sunday afternoon. The cook plans the menu and buys the food; we (usually 3 volunteers) cook and serve it and maybe bring some cookies!

The residents are lovely, very appreciative folks. The good feelings you take home after your time with them is so rewarding. It requires really very little time, as we are "on" usually less than once a month.

### STEWARDSHIP NOTE: LIFT PROJECT

By now all the UUMH members will have received the request for donations toward the Lift Project. This is the season of giving, and we on Stewardship encourage all of you who are able, to make a commitment toward the Lift Project, so that all our members in need of this type of service can benefit by the earliest possible construction of the Lift.

Just a reminder that you do not need to send the entire amount that you wish to give by the end of the year. We would, however, like to include the total you wish to pledge to the project so that the Board of Trustees can begin to create a timeline.

Thanks to those that have given or pledged. We wish you a Merry Christmas.

For the Stewardship Committee,  
Ralph Bauer, Chair

### FLECK ROOM ART EXHIBITS

Fleck Room Art exhibits are for the purpose of displaying the work of those who love to express themselves through art. UUMH members, friends in the community, children, accomplished artists and novices—ALL are invited to participate.

The theme of the December show is "Art-efacs". Work will be received on Friday, December 7 from 9:30 to noon in the Fleck Room. The show will hang through January 4.

If you plan to enter, here are some suggestions: Your work could depict any artifact (objects made by human hand) as small as a bottle or large as a building. Or, your work could depict "found" natural objects like shells or driftwood. A still life painting of flowers that includes pottery or antiques is one suggestion. Consider cars, boats, and bicycles as 20th century artifacts. Quilts and dolls as well.

"In your dreams" is the theme of the January show. Surreal, real, abstract or imaginary.

Do you have children in your family or neighborhood who would enjoy seeing their art on display? You may want to tell them about the "Beast, Bird, or Fish" show coming in March. Please contact a committee member for details: Jane Eccles, Barbara Melcher, or Beth Avery.



### The Children's Circle

Seasons Greetings! We are well underway with our Beacon Youth Outreach project *December Nights, December Lights*, which will be performed on December 9 at the Sunday service. Additionally, the youth involved in this endeavor, to raise money to purchase sleeping bags for the homeless who refuse shelter, will also perform at Stop and Shop in Orleans during this holiday season.

Another group of children participated in BYO's Thriller flash mob on October 27, at locations along Main Street. This production was plagued by numerous difficulties, but managed to overcome all, including the imminent hurricane warnings, through perseverance and cooperation. Special thanks to Sam Carpenter, Destinee Holt, Kiah Mullally, Alyssa and Kaitlyn Lyons, Kate Pozkanzer, Emily Sanders, and Lizzie Sprout, who raised more than \$250.00 to benefit UNICEF.

Our Sunday morning program now has two registered children who attend regularly: Kiah Mullally and Lucy Mae Wise. We are fortunate that Kiah always has one or two friends that accompany him, too. For the month of December, we will be discussing the different holidays celebrated in December and the commonality of light amongst them all. May the light shine within all of us during this special time of the year.



**Christmas isn't just a day, it's a frame of mind. (Valentine Davies)**

## LEARNING FOR LIFE

### TALK ON THE LIFE OF WALTER CRONKITE



Mr. Ed Fouhy, a former CBS News colleague and friend of Walter Cronkite, will give a talk on the life of Cronkite on Sunday, December 2, 2012 at 3:00 pm in the UUMH Fleck Room. In the eyes of many, Cronkite, the CBS evening news anchorman, was the most influential journalist of the 20th century. Don't miss Fouhy's stimulating presentation.

## SMALL GROUP MINISTRY AT UUMH

### Do you know about the Small Group Ministry program at the church?

It is a way of connecting, of getting to know and be known by a group of 6-10 people. The groups meet once a month Or more often, usually in people's homes, for about 1 ½-2 hours each meeting. Each group has a facilitator, and chooses a topic to discuss that month.

The topics are spiritual ones, connected to who we are and how we live our lives as religious people. Sometimes they are inspired by the sermons, but other times are selected from the interests expressed by the group. The group gathers, the chalice is lit, and there are a few minutes for check-in, where each member reports on what's going on with him/her. Then the facilitator presents a reading for the topic, and the discussion goes from there.

Most participants have found it to be an enriching and rewarding experience, well worth the time expended.

If you are not currently in a small group but want to be in one, please see Edmund or Sue Bauer and let us know whether your preferred meeting time is daylight or evening. Seasonal folks are welcome!

## FIRST NIGHT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

New Year's Eve is fast approaching and volunteers are needed at UUMH.. The schedule for this year is: 7-9 PM All Worn Out Jug Band; 9 PM Oyez – Renaissance Music; 10-12 midnight Saltwater Jazz.

We ask that you sign up for two hours. Consider this an opportunity to enjoy a special event of your choice without the wait. Volunteers are asked to attend an orientation meeting (with pizza) on Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 PM at the Methodist Church; and volunteers can look forward to a fabulous "thank you" party in January. For further information or to sign up please contact: Polly Kennedy at 430-0337 or Marie Becker at 945-3775.



### Fall and Winter Parking

Once again this year, the Queen Anne Inn has generously offered their parking lot closest to the Meeting House for Sunday morning parking. Parking in the Village Market/CVS involves the goodwill of those businesses, so we are lucky to be able to have the Queen Anne lot, Oyster Pond Furlong, and the Post Office lot as parking possibilities.

### WINTER STORM CLOSINGS

We are coming into winter and the possibility of snow or ice which might make getting to the Meeting House difficult. The Program Council and the minister have developed a procedure for such times. Whatever the Meeting House does, please decide on your own whether or not to venture out!

**Sunday Services:** If a Sunday service needs to be canceled, the following will occur as soon after 8AM as possible:

- An all-wide church email will go out to the congregation
- The church phone message will announce the change (945-2075)
- WQRC (99.9 FM) will be notified – we will be part of their closings list

**Other church events on Sundays or during the week:**

- The email and phone message information will remain the same as for Sunday closings. WQRC probably *will not* be called.

**PLEASE!!!** Make your own decisions based on your situation. Sunday services will not be canceled unless absolutely necessary, but consider your street, your neighborhood, your love – or not! – of driving in the snow. The most important thing is not the sermon, but your safety!!!

### CLASSIFIED ADS

Please email Sue Bauer with your “ad” at [ralphb1234@cs.com](mailto:ralphb1234@cs.com))

\*\*\*\* Ken Davol is available for heavy lifting/chores/yard work. 774-454-3551

\*\*\*\* PCA (Personal Care Assistant) (Daughter of Harmon and Ann Diers)

- Transportation, meal planning
- Medication reminders
- Light housekeeping, companionship
- CORI approved
- Rates lower than private agencies

Please contact Cindy Smith any time at: 774-722-2611





## JOYS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Hope you all noticed the lovely poem, Continuum, by Ruth Treen published in the latest UU World.

A wonderful, long article about Jacqueline Schwab in a November Cape Week. While it highlights a concert she was doing, it also has a lot of great information about Jacqueline that you may not know.

## UUMH LIBRARY



The books are back!!! The UUMH Library is again available in a corner of the Fleck Room. Look them over-some great titles in religion, politics, history, social justice, etc. Check them out by signing the card in the back and leaving it in the box nearby.

## USHERS NEEDED IN DECEMBER

**Ushers needed for several December Sundays and especially for Christmas Eve services. Please call Jan Young at 246-1105 if you would be willing to help.**

## THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB

The Third Monday Book Club will meet on January 21 in the Fleck Room to discuss *State of wonder* by Ann Patchett. New members always welcome. Questions? Call Sue Bauer at 945-3264.



## TURKEY TROT RESULTS

The eighth annual Turkey Trot was held on Thanksgiving day and was a great success. Over 1,400 people came to enjoy the fun run-walk under sunny blue skies. As a result, Lower Cape Outreach Council received a truck load of food and a check in excess of \$18,000. Mary Parsons and Linda Redding thank all who participated and are looking forward to next year.

## PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

### December Birthdays

2	Sue Pike
4	Mickey Barnes
7	Liz Sjogren
10	Vivienne Chapman
11	Deb Rogers
11	Dick Fewkes
16	Barbara Rothenburger
21	Margaret Poxon
27	Dave Hubbard



### December Anniversaries

16	Jean and Fran Jones
24	Greg Heyl and Eric Riley
28	Karen and Ron Nickerson
29	Jane and Read Moffett
30	Barbara Melcher and Jim Robinson

## Donations for Buddhist nun

Once again I am collecting donations to help support Tenzin Sangmo (her name means Teacher Good-woman) who is a young nun and a student at Menri Monastery in Dolanji, India.

I have met this little girl twice on my visits to India, and she is a unique, shy and studious girl. I am hoping that by sponsoring her (through the Bon Foundation, [www.bonfoundation.org](http://www.bonfoundation.org)) I am doing my small part to support equal education for girls in all nations and cultures of the world.

If you would like to help me, you can send a check to Jennie Makihara (UUMH Member)  
204 Main St. Harwich, MA 02645.

You can make it out to Jennie Makihara or to the Bon Foundation if you want the tax deduction. Thank you.

