

NEWS FROM THE HILL

NEWSLETTER OF THE U.U.

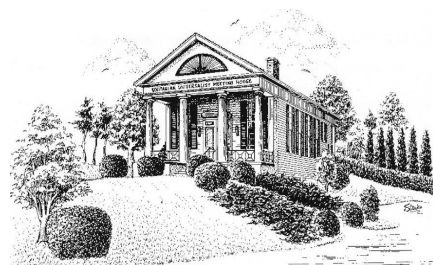
MEETING HOUSE OF CHATHAM

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

To all UUMH Members and Friends:

A Happy New Year and a BIG thank you from the Stewardship team for your support and generosity for the Lift Project. You have lifted our hearts and our spirits with your pledges and donations.

As we enter the New Year we are not yet to our goal, but we all feel confident that you will make this happen. Keep up the good work and continue to pledge toward the Lift Project.

for the Stewardship Committee,

Ralph Bauer, Chair



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A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

January 6 "Epiphanies Great and Small" Rev. Edmund Robinson

January 6, Twelfth Night, is also the Feast of the Epiphany, when orthodox Christians celebrate the visit of the Magi and, more generally, the revelation that Jesus is the Son of God. But the word Epiphany only means an insight, a seeing through the surface detail to a deeper reality. Instead of New Year's Resolutions, what epiphanies do we have on entering a new year?

January 13 "Freedom and Control" Rev. Edmund Robinson

Gun ownership in America is often defended on the basis of an inherent freedom. What is the freedom that requires firearms, and is it balanced against the freedom of non-gun owners to be safe?

January 20 "Dr. King's Dream" Rev. Edmund Robinson

A Status Report 50 years after his famous speech. Have we achieved a country where each is judged by the content of one's character rather than the color of one's skin?

January 27 Sermon title to be announced Rev. Bill Clark

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.

Happy New Year!

Who's Preaching This Month??

The Rev. William Clark, formerly the minister in Winchester MA, is now retired and lives in Provincetown.

Sightings**The Rev. Edmund Robinson**

Well, the world didn't end, and I for one, am glad. The world can be a real big pain in the kiester, but I love it. I am glad to wake up in the morning and find it still here. Mary Oliver comes to mind:

... if your spirit carries within it
The thorn that is heavier than lead-
If it's all you can do to keep on trudging-
There is still somewhere deep within you
A beast shouting that the
Earth is exactly what it wanted....

As 2012 draws to a close, we can take great pride in what we have accomplished as a congregation; we have launched a youth program which is enriching the lives of several young people in our community. We are well on our way to increasing our accessibility to those who are mobility impaired. And we have enriched the town of Chatham in its celebration of its 300th anniversary. I am also very proud of the clergy association and its gift of the labyrinth in Chase Park, a spiritual focus which has already been the location of a rite of passage for a dear member of this church. We had a little concert to raise money for the maintenance of the labyrinth in October at the Congregational Church which featured music about circles. I was inspired to write this poem which reflects the Chatham 300 motto: "Finding your way here."

Labyrinth

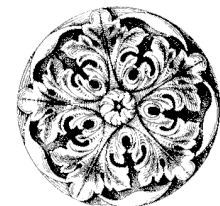
We didn't know we'd find our way here,
What we knew was where we had to leave.
Yet we circled like mackerel in a weir,
Our paths recrossing in continuous weave.

What we knew was where we had to leave,
We washed up on the Monomoyick shore,
Our paths recrossed in continuous weave,
Until we heard the ocean's constant roar.

We settled on the Monomoyick shore,
Beside waters graced with trails of light,
Where the ocean intones its constant roar,
And breezes toss trees by day and night.

The waters decked with swirls of light,
Lap at our footsteps as we pass,
The breeze-tossed trees, day and night,
Loom above the waving grass.

Continued on page 4



(Labyrinth, cont.)

The pulse of our footfalls as we pass
Gives rhythm to the waning day.
The sweet scent of the waving grass,
Weaves light and shadow across our way.

We dance the rhythms of waning day,
And circle like mackerel in a weir,
With light and shadow along our way:
We didn't know we'd find our way here.

Blessings to you all for the new year,

Edmund

More from Edmund

I will be in Chicago for the midwinter meeting of the governing council of the Institute For Religion in an Age of Science (IRAS) from Jan 25-27, then I will fly to St. Petersburg, FL for a minister's workshop Jan 28-Feb 1, then join Jacqueline in St. Croix for a dance week and a concert, arriving back in Boston February 8.

**POT LUCK**

**A Pot Luck to celebrate Twelfth Night
—only slightly belated!!**

The menu this evening is Stew....beef, chicken, vegetarian, whatever you are inspired to make!! As well as appetizers, salad, bread, and dessert.

Saturday January 12 5:30 PM in the Fleck Room

Bring your own place settings and beverages. Napkins, coffee, and tea will be waiting for you. As will some entertainment...still in the planning stages. (Let us know if you have any great ideas!!) Sign up on Sundays or call Mary Parsons (432-7194) or Sue Bauer (945-3264)

LEARNING FOR LIFE

Lisa Sette of the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies will present a program entitled "Sharing our shores: Discovering the Seals of Cape Cod" on Wednesday, January 30 at 2 PM in the Fleck Room.

Lisa has worked as a marine naturalist since 1988. Her background in photography and biology provides a great foundation for interpreting and studying the natural world. Her time on the water inspired her to pursue a graduate degree in biology, which led her to work with the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies. Currently Lisa is part of the Marine Animal Entanglement Response Team and is also spearheading a research project focused on gray seals.

She is working to establish a catalogue of gray seals based on photo-identification of seals she has observed at haul-out sites around the outer Cape, and is now concentrating on the haul-out at Head of the Meadow Beach in Truro. She has also worked collaboratively with the Center's own Marine Fisheries Research project and local fishermen to develop a working group to look at seal-fisheries interactions. At present, she is seeking funding for a tagging project that will provide detailed information on seal movements.

**IN MEMORIAM**

ESTER ANDERSON
1918-2012

FOUNDING MEMBER OF UUMH



Wear a smile and have friends; wear a scowl and have wrinkles. (G. Eliot)

FLECK ROOM ART EXHIBITS

"In your dreams" is the theme of the January show. Work will be received on Friday, January 4 from 9:30 to noon. As the theme suggests, the subject is open to artists' interpretations. We welcome UUMH members, friends in the community, children, and artists of all skill levels to participate in all upcoming open shows.



Thanks to all who participated in the Art-efacs show. It was a pleasure to see such a variety of medium. . . the rust designs and quilt adding a third dimension of texture to the exhibit. All of the percentage of sales go to the UUMH Lift Fund with a special thanks to those artist/members who offered a generous 50-100% of their sales to the Fund.

If you have questions regarding upcoming shows, please contact a committee member (Jane Eccles 255-7937, Barbara Melcher 255-5175, or Beth Avery 255-2777) for details.

THE GATHERING? WHO ARE WE?

One year ago January a group of women met at the Meeting House and created a Women's Group which we named THE GATHERING. At that same meeting we also created our vision statement for the group as follows: "A convivial group of women of all ages who are members and friends of the Meeting House and who meet to share their experiences, concerns and interests in a social setting, getting to know each other on a more personal basis."

The next meeting of the Gathering will be held on Monday evening January 14 at 7 PM in the Fleck Room. The evening's topic will be "Sharing our New Years Resolutions, Past and Present"

Please do come and get to know each of us a little better! Questions? Call Charlotte Edgecombe at 398-8516.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

The dinner was served at the Congregate House on December 23 by Connie Pina, Barbara Waters, and assisted by Jackie Beale.

We have signed on to be responsible for 7 evening meals during the coming year. Two people have come forth to assist with the continuance of the program. Volunteers will be needed throughout the year and I will look forward to hearing from you. Thank you again for your past help. Our next opportunity for service will be in February.

Connie Pina

Friends are relatives you make for yourself. (Deschamps)



The Children's Circle

This past month we have been reading and talking about the December holidays. As the young members of our Children's Circle rehearsed for our musical production, *December Nights, December Lights*, we also discussed the issue of homelessness. The performers of Beacon Youth Outreach have raised more than \$500.00 for "Housing for All". We expect Paul and Carolyn Hebert, of Housing for All, to visit our Sunday morning children's program in the new year. Our creative endeavors in January, for Beacon Youth Outreach, will be artistic expression through collage and photography.

Currently, we have two children who attend church regularly, but we believe we will have two or three new families coming in January. As always, thank you all for your amazing support! I wish you peace, health, and happiness in this holiday season.

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. However, 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!!!

JOYS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Great article in the Cape Cod Times about Danielle Jeanloz and her husband who were featured in a Vistaprint commercial on small businesses. Danielle and Bob run Maps of Antiquity here in Chatham.

Did you recognize the cover photo on a recent Prime Time? Gail Tilton was the “star” of a great article on the Crafty Chics, a crafting group which she started several years ago.



DIRECTORY CHANGES



If you have not done so already, please join our growing team of hosts and ushers. In January, we still need ushers for the 6th, 13th and 29th; and hosts/hostesses for the 20th and 27th. Free training included! Please contact Jan Young, Operators are standing by!

PEOPLE TO CELEBRATE

January Birthdays

- 3 Fran Jones
- 6 Laurie Fitzpatrick
- 8 Charlotte Edgcombe
- 12 Brenda Collins
- 13 Read Moffett
- 23 Ann Diers
- 23 Dick Soule
- 23 Jennie Makihara
- 26 Adele Gorelick
- 27 Grady Howell
- 28 Ron Nickerson
- 30 Jean Jones



January Anniversary

- 29 Linda and Bob Redding

February Birthdays

- 1 Elsa Bastone
- 3 Joyce DeVoe

February Anniversaries

- 1 Betty and Bob Twiss
- 1 Liz and Dave Van Wye

THIRD MONDAY BOOK CLUB



The Third Monday Book Club will meet January 21 to discuss Ann Patchett’s State of wonder. Everyone is welcome. We meet in the Fleck Room at 10:30 AM. Questions? Call Sue Bauer at 945-3264.

LET US KNOW.....

The Pastoral Care Team delights in celebrating birthdays and anniversaries by sending cards to members and friends. From their list, we prepare the People to Celebrate part of each Newsletter. We would love to add your name to our list!! Wouldn’t it be great to have others celebrate your special day with friends? Please call Melissa (945-2075) or Sue Bauer (945-3264) with your birthday or anniversary.