



THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBOROUGH

25 South Main Street, Middleborough, MA 02346

www.uumiddleboro.org

508-947-1935 April, 2019

The theme for the month is "Second Chances."

Our Sunday morning worship services begin at 10:30 a.m.

April 7

Rev. Sarah Person preaching

Beyond Sorry

If we have lived, we have all made a mistake or a choice that hurt someone. We talk a lot about the power of forgiveness, but not as much about the lesson of needing forgiveness. The Chalice Choir will be singing.

April 14

Rev. Sarah Person preaching

The Consequence of Liberation

Rabbi Arthur Waskow has said, "in every generation some pharaoh will arise to destroy and that in every generation, every human being -- not just every Jew -- must look upon [themselves] as if it is we, not our ancestors only, who must go forth to freedom." Today we try to avoid pharaohs in many aspects of our lives. It takes a certain kind of courage to face up to them. Special music will be provided by Rob Dragunas on mandolin.

April 21 - Easter Sunday

Rev. Sarah Person preaching

Teshuvah

It is the season of rebirth and renewal. Easter, Passover and Earth Day converge on us with their reminders that freedom and hope are always waiting for us for us to find them. "Teshuvah" in Hebrew means to turn around, to return. For Jews it is to turn back to God. For others it might mean to return to our true path in life. One could say returning to life is the message of Spring. Teshuvah is the reckoning. The Chalice Choir will be singing.

Don't forget to bring in a blown decorated egg to hang on our Easter Egg Tree. (We will also have some on hand.)

April 28

Rev. Richard M. Fewkes preaching

On Truth & Lies in Our Public and Private Lives

This morning our guest minister is Rev. Richard M. Fewkes. Special music will be provided by an ensemble.

Rev. Richard M. Fewkes has served three churches in the Ballou Channing District: (1) First UU Society in Middleboro (1964-69), (2) is the Minister Emeritus of the First Parish in Norwell, Mass., where he served from 1969 to 2000, and (3) as Interim Minister at the First Parish UU Church, Bridgewater, 2000 – 2002. He resides with his partner Connie Johnson in Sagamore Beach, has a summer home on Cape Cod in West Dennis, is a grandfather to eight grandchildren, five great grandchildren, and is a member of the UU Meeting House in Chatham, MA.

Minister's Meditation

Spring is the inexorable turning from winter to warmth. Baseball. Crocuses. Streams swollen with melting snow. Wildlife is bearing witness, and their rites are being observed. The dawn calls us earlier and earlier. I count those minutes and crave the light more than I can say. The light is a promise being kept. I realize how few things in life can be absolutely relied upon. The seasons keep their vows and bear us along. How we go is up to us.

*This time of year is filled with promises, of spring, of deliverance. In particular, the Jewish holy day of Passover is the celebration of not only the release of the Hebrew slaves from Egypt, but also a commandment to honor our freedom. Victoria Safford reminds us that "the promised land is not a destination—it is a way of going." (*Walking Toward Morning*).*

How will you honor your freedom today?

Blessings,

Rev. Sarah



MUSIC MUSINGS



There is a great awakening in the air – SPRING is afoot! This year, April is the month for Easter as well as the FUNdraiser “Men Who Cook, Women Who Sing!” Just around the corner is Music Sunday on May 5th, presenting choral music based on the poetry of Maya Angelou. There is much rehearsing and excitement on the horizon.

The big news for April is the acquisition of our new BABY – a baby grand, that is! After months of traipsing around New England playing pianos in stores, outlets, warehouses, estate sales, and private homes, I have settled on an amazing hand-made Mason & Hamlin, Model B. Although it’s a baby-grand at 5’4”, it packs the power and clarity of a much larger instrument, and I am delighted by the resonance and clarity of the bass as well as the warm brilliance of the upper register. This is the instrument that will ably carry us forward for generations to come.

Thank you to all the piano fund donors who have made it possible to purchase what we want and need to continue a vibrant music ministry in our church. We hope to have our piano delivered, settled into its new home, and tuned-up in time for Music Sunday. If you’re curious or interested in a factory tour, check out the website at: <http://masonhamlin.com/>.

Susan Land Hotchkiss, Director of Music



We are continuing our program “The Quest for the Six Sources” with our fifth source, “Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against the idolatries of mind and spirit.” We will update our journals, earn more rings and continue our experiences with science and reason. This month we made scale models of the planets, completed an experiment using the scientific method, and we blew up a balloon with vinegar and baking soda. Jeff Stevens and Bill Howe have been our teachers, and they have given the children a lot to think about!

We are looking to have a few Junior Youth Group meetings through the end of the church year. If anyone is interested in helping lead four or five groups between now and June, please let me know. We want to get our group to know each other better before we start our next sessions of OWL and Coming of Age.

Our Senior Youth Group will be meeting on April 28. We will be talking about generosity and courage. Our group has been enjoying their time together and are planning for an outing this spring in addition to our continued volunteer time at coffee hour.

Kelly Lownds, Acting Director of Religious Exploration



SERVICE AUCTION RESULTS

Thank you to all who participated in our recent People to People Service Auction. We raised **over \$7,725** for our church! Congratulations to all who helped and to our auctioneer, Norm Grenier!



**14th Annual
MEN WHO COOK, WOMEN WHO SING
FUNdraiser**

Saturday, April 27

Doors open at 5:45 p.m.

**Food starts at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall
followed by the show upstairs in the Sanctuary**

Open to the Public Great Music, Food and Fun!

Suggestion Donation: \$25 Payable at the Door

Working Scholarships Available

Hearty Appetizers

The appetizers are served at stations, with mingling (not as a sit-down dinner).

Wine Available for a Suggested Donation

Show of Music and Laughter

Dessert Buffet and Coffee

Join the fun!

We have openings for:

Singers, dancers, poets and performers of all kinds!

Cooks, bakers and food makers of all kinds!

Volunteers for set up, clean up and dishwashers of all kinds!

Please tell Andrea Priest andreapriesto@gmail.com how you can help!

THIS IS A REALLY FUN NIGHT. LET'S MAKE IT A SUCCESS!



ANNUAL PLANT SALE

By the time you read this, the snow will have vanished and the ground will have thawed, and we will be out in our gardens potting up every pretty or edible thing our yards can spare because **Saturday, May 11, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** is the PLANT SALE, when our church offers to the public a churchyard full of perennials, shrubs and herbs that we know well, flats of locally grown annuals and vegetables, as well as elegant hanging baskets.



Hopefully, you too will be out dividing and thinning and potting. Bring us flowering plants, ground covers, shrubs, herbs, your own home-grown seedlings, or even baby trees. We always hope to offer many native plants which support native insects and birds, but we will not sell invasive exotic plants such as Bishop's Weed. We urge you to pot your plants early so they

are well established in the soil, but you must tend them at home until May 9. Label them as to species and color so you don't forget!

Helpers will be needed all day to sell, early in the morning to unload the nursery truck, after sale hours to clean up, and again on Sunday to sell the leftovers. Watch for sign-up sheets or contact Mike Schroeder (mwschroeder379@gmail.com) or Maria Pucillo-Dunphy (meowia@mns.us).

Not a gardener? Mark your calendars anyway, because this sale is a great opportunity to buy gifts for Mother's Day.





CUUPS

Monday, April 1, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

On April 1, CUUPS will be having a business meeting. Anyone owing dues can pay then, and we will be finalizing the year's schedule. The concentration this year for ritual and discussions will be centered around *loving our Mother, the Earth*. How can we slow the destruction? How can we work to help others understand the importance of ACTING NOW? All are welcome to present ideas.

Monday, April 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

It Is In Loving The Earth That We Heal



We live in a time of great challenge. Climate change and human unrest are mirror images of a great imbalance stemming from our disconnection from the natural world. The way to heal both the Earth and ourselves is to reconnect to our place in the Web of Life and to remember that the Earth and all life is sacred. In this presentation, we will identify some of the problems facing both the planet and ourselves and explore ways to work with energy, the elements and the plant and mineral kingdoms to restore balance and vibrant good health for all. Power is in the Earth. It is in our relationship to the Earth. By reconnecting with that ancient power, we can restore balance and once again walk in beauty and reverence upon the Earth. Join this discussion with Natalie Johnson of CUUPS.



HEALING CIRCLE

Monday, April 8, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

We live in challenging times and are often busier than we wish to be. We are pressured and start to worry beginning at an early age. As we get older, juggling careers, families, and maybe even the needs of older parents add more stress. We are concerned as to whether we have enough resources to see us through to the end of life.



The media keeps us in a constant state of fear and anxiety. Although we feel powerless to change the current American atmosphere, we can learn to slow down and give ourselves a much-needed time out. To that end, the Healing Circle is offered as a way to take a step back from the chaos of life and do something just for ourselves. It is an invitation to take some time to retreat, relax and just "be."

The Healing Circle is a safe and sacred space. Following a brief guided meditation to relax and center, practitioners will offer healing in a variety of modalities including Reiki, Healing Touch, and Shamanic Healing. This can be either hands on or off and is done in a way that respects personal boundaries. Recipients are also invited to place intentions and prayers for loved ones in the Healing Basket. The Circle is offered by donation in the Spirit of Love.



KNITTING GROUP

Friday, April 12, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Juli Gould's Home



Our knitting/crocheting ministry is a key aspect of our congregational life. This year has presented many challenges for us, and Juli Gould and her friends have presented many shawls and baby blankets to people needing warmth and comfort.

Our supply is getting low! If you are fond of knitting – at home, at church, at Juli's house with the group – let us know. each month from 7 to 9. Carpooling is a possibility. Please speak with Juli, Dody Adkins-Perry, or Rev. Sarah for more information. Although Juli doesn't ask for RSVPs, it is helpful if she knows who to expect. Thank you!

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING (DRAFT)

March 20, 2019

Present: Bob Waterman, Rev. Sarah Person, Eileen Smith, Marc MacQueen, Barbara Bancroft, Bill Howe, Pam Davis.

Visitors: Kelly Lownds, Greg Stevens

Minutes of February 20 were approved.

Minister's Report: The Care Team has begun the Remembership program. Recent successes include initiating Soulful Sanctuary, Sustainable Middleboro and Game Night. Ballou Channing District will dissolve and merge with the UUA. The Membership Development Committee is working to redefine what Membership in FUUSM represents, including the possibility of creating a covenant between congregation and member.

RE: The RE Committee has recommended that the duties of DRE in 2019/20 be shared, establishing a separate Youth Advisor role. The DRE position would be half-time (20 hrs/week), and the Youth Advisor would be 5 hrs/week. Kelly Lownds would like to be considered for the DRE position and Greg Stevens for the Youth Advisor role. The PC endorsed this arrangement and the selection of Kelly and Greg for those roles. Juliet's role as consultant will finish by the end of this church year.

Treasurer's Report: Both income and expenses are running below budget through February. Marc MacQueen announced that the search for a new accounting system has culminated in proposing a subscription to Powerchurch Plus, an online accounting/information system that will meet our accounting needs and provide payroll, pledge/giving and member information for our church. *The PC authorized* Marc to subscribe to the service for a year (a 60-day withdrawal window is included to guard against unforeseen problems).

Resolution: *The PC adopted* a resolution required by Fidelity Investments governing our relationship with that firm (see attached).

Fundraising Events: So far, the Auction has raised \$7,725 with some items still available.

Music: Susan Hotchkiss has located a new Baby Grand piano that will meet our needs!

Cash-In-The-Plate: April gifts will go to the Middleboro YMCA.

2019/20 Stewardship: Greg Stevens reported that stewards received training on March 9 and have been given all needed materials, including 3 to 5 members to contact. The goal is to wrap up the drive by April 30. PC members will get their pledges to Greg by March 22, and he will report on progress weekly. Two testimonials may be made during the month. Pledges will, starting this year, include a contribution to the UUA's Annual Program Fund.

Meeting of the Congregation: A special meeting will be held on April 28 to consider changes to the Bylaws related to membership and the configuration of the PC. An information meeting to discuss these changes will be offered on April 7.

Listening Circles: Eileen Smith provided the PC with a summary of member comments and suggestions. Further discussion and action will occur at the April meeting.

The PC will hold its next regular meeting on Wednesday, **April 17, at 6:00 p.m.** Agenda items will include Gender Neutral Bathrooms and insurance coverage for the new piano.

PARISH COMMITTEE

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBORO

RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON MARCH 20, 2019

Resolved:

FIRST: That the individual listed in Section 2 of this corporate resolution hereby is authorized and empowered, for and on behalf of this Corporation, to establish, maintain, and act on this account (which may be a margin account) and that the individuals listed in Section 3 of this Corporate Resolution are, and each of them hereby is, authorized and empowered for and on behalf of this Corporation, with Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC and its affiliates (collectively "Fidelity") for the purpose of purchasing, investing in, or otherwise acquiring, selling (including short sales), possessing, transferring, exchanging, or otherwise disposing of, or turning to account of, or realizing upon, and generally dealing in and with any and all forms of securities including, but not by way of limitation, shares, stocks, bonds, debentures, notes, scrip, participation, certificates, rights to subscribe, options, warrants, certificates of deposit, mortgages, evidences of indebtedness, commercial paper, certificates of indebtedness and certificates of interest in any and every kind and nature whatsoever, secured or unsecured, whether represented by trust, participating and/or other certificates, or otherwise.

The fullest authority at all times with respect to any such commitment or with respect to any transaction deemed by any of the said officers and/or agents to be proper in connection therewith is hereby conferred, including authority (without limiting the generality of the foregoing) to give instructions (whether oral, written, electronic, or otherwise) to Fidelity with respect to said transactions; to borrow money and securities and to borrow such money and securities from or through Fidelity, and to secure repayment thereof with the property of the Corporation; to bind and obligate the Corporation to and for the carrying out of any contract, arrangement, or transaction that shall be entered into by any such officer and/or agent for and on behalf of the Corporation with or through Fidelity; to pay by checks and/or drafts upon the funds of the Corporation such sums as may be necessary in connection with any of the said accounts, to deliver securities and contracts to Fidelity; to deliver securities to and deposit funds with Fidelity; to order the transfer or delivery of securities to any other person whatsoever, and/or to order the transfer of record of any securities, to any name selected by any of the said officers or agents; to affix the corporate seal to any documents or securities to any name selected by any of the said officers or agents; to affix the corporate seal to any documents or agreements, or otherwise; to endorse any securities and/or contracts in order to pass title thereto; to direct the sale or exercise of any rights with respect to any securities; to sign for the Corporation all releases, powers of attorney, and/or other documents in connection with any such account, and to agree to any terms or conditions to control any such account; to direct Fidelity to surrender any securities to the proper agent or party for the purpose of effecting any exchange or conversion, or for the purpose of deposit with any protective or similar committee, or otherwise; to accept delivery of any securities; to appoint any other person or persons to do any and all things that any of the said officers and/or agents are hereby empowered to do, and generally to do and take all action necessary in connection with the account, or considered desirable by such officer and/or agent with respect thereto.

SECOND: That Fidelity may deal with any and all of the persons directly or indirectly empowered by the foregoing resolution, as though they were dealing with the Corporation directly.

THIRD: That the Secretary of the Corporation be and hereby is authorized, empowered and if requested by Fidelity, directed to certify, under the seal of the Corporation, or otherwise, to Fidelity:

a) a true copy of these resolutions; b) specimen signatures of each and every person by these resolutions empowered; c) a certificate(which, if required by Fidelity, shall be supported by an opinion of the general counsel of the corporation, or other counsel satisfactory to Fidelity) that the Corporation is duly organized and existing, that its charter empowers it to transact the business by these resolutions defined, and that no limitation has been imposed upon such powers by the bylaws or otherwise.

FOURTH: That Fidelity may rely upon any certification given in accordance with these resolutions, as continuing fully effective unless and until Fidelity shall receive due written notice of change in or the rescission of the authority so evidenced and the dispatch or receipt of any other form of notice shall not constitute a waiver of this provision, nor shall the fact that any person hereby empowered ceases to be an officer of the Corporation or becomes an officer under some other title in any way affect the powers hereby conferred. The failure to supply specimen signature shall not invalidate any transaction if the transaction is in accordance with authority actually granted.

FIFTH: That in the event of any change in the office or powers of persons hereby empowered, the Secretary shall certify such changes to Fidelity in writing in the manner herein above provided, which notification, when received, shall be adequate both to terminate the powers of the persons theretofore authorized, and to empower the persons thereby substituted.

SIXTH: That the foregoing resolutions and the certificates actually furnished to Fidelity by the Secretary of the Corporation pursuant thereto be and hereby are made irrevocable until written notice of the revocation thereof shall have been received by Fidelity.

SEVENTH: That the Corporation and its officers indemnify and hold Fidelity harmless from any claim, loss, expense, or other liability for effecting any transactions and acting upon any instructions given the officers or Secretary of the Corporation.

Attested to by:

Robert Waterman
President of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleboro

Barbara Bancroft
Vice President of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleboro

APRIL
2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7:00 p.m. CUUPs, Parish Hall	10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 6:30 p.m. Expansion Comm., Minister's Office 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir, Parish Hall	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline	9:00 a.m. Piano Delivery, Sanctuary 5:45 p.m. Leadership Development Team, Minister's Office 7:00 p.m. Spirituality Group, Minister's Office	9:30 a.m. Musikgarten, Parish Hall 6:00 p.m. Sangha Meditation, Parish Hall (Recycle Week)	10:00 a.m. Craft Class Parish Hall
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Exploration 11:30 a.m. On Topic, Parlor 12:00 noon Information Meeting, Sanctuary	7:00 p.m. Healing Circle, Parish Hall	10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Parish Hall	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline 7:00 p.m. Music Committee, Parish Hall	7:00 p.m. Spirituality Group, Minister's Office 7:00 p.m. Satsang, Off Site	9:30 a.m. Musikgarten, Parish Hall 5:00 p.m. Wedding Rehearsal, Sanctuary 6:00 p.m. Sangha Meditation, Parish Hall 7:00 p.m. Knitting Group, J. Gould's Home (Recycle Week)	4:00 p.m. Wedding, Sanctuary
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Exploration 11:30 a.m. On Topic, Parlor	 5:00 p.m. Men Who Cook Rehearsal, Sanctuary 5:30 p.m. Book Discussion, Parish Hall 7:00 p.m. CUUPs, Parish Hall	10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Parish Hall	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline 6:00 p.m. Parish Committee, Parish Hall	6:00 p.m. PR Committee, Minister's Office 7:00 p.m. Spirituality Group, Minister's Office	6:00 p.m. Sangha Meditation, Parish Hall  (Recycle Week)	9:30 a.m. Living in the Questions, Parish Hall
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
 10:30 a.m. Family Worship Service May Newsletter Deadline	 5:00 p.m. Men Who Cook Rehearsal, Sanctuary	10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Parish Hall	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline	4:00 p.m. Membership Dev, Minister's Office 7:00 p.m. Spirituality Group, Minister's Office 7:00 p.m. Satsang, Off Site	9:30 a.m. Musikgarten, Parish Hall 5:00 p.m. Men Who Cook Set-Up & Prep, Parish Hall & Kitchen	6:00 p.m. Men Who Cook, Women Who Sing, All Church
28	29	30				
10:30 a.m. Worship & R.E. 11:30 a.m. Special Cong. Mtg. Sanctuary 1:00 p.m. Music Rehearsal, Sanctuary 6:00 p.m. Senior Youth Group, Parish Hall		10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Parish Hall				



The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough
25 South Main Street
Middleborough, MA 02346



Visit <https://www.uua.org/new-england/workshops-webinars> to register for any of the following workshops.

Thursday, April 11, to Saturday, April 13 - Renaissance Module: Worship

Renaissance Modules are designed for Professional and Lay Religious Educators.

Location: Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua, NH, at 58 Lowell St, Nashua, NH 03064

Module Leaders: Rev. Allison Palm and Sadie Kahn-Greene

Saturday, April 27 - Walking the Talk of Covenant

This workshop invites your team into a deeper awareness of the practice of covenant as part of Spiritual Leadership.

Location: Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Upper Valley, 320 US-5, Norwich, VT 05055
by New England Region UUA

***** SAVE THE DATE *****

Ballou Channing District

Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 4, 2019

First Parish Unitarian Universalist

1508 Washington St., Canton, MA