



THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBOROUGH

25 South Main Street, Middleborough, MA 02346 508-947-1935 www.uumiddleboro.org July/August 2022

Summer Sundays Schedule 2022

Starting with July 3rd, the typical service starts at 9:00 a.m. and lasts ½ hour with the rest taken up by Fellowship time until 10:00 a.m. Summer services are held in our air-conditioned Parish Hall. Visit [COVID Guidelines](#) for our in-person policy.

June 26 at 10:30 a.m.: **Sarah's Shindig** (See next page)

July 3: **General Assembly Service** by Zoom only followed by a Time of Fellowship

The link will be sent to UU Updates subscribers.

July 10: **Exploring the Tao Te Ching and Its Relevance to Today's World** **Connie Komack**

The Chinese philosophy of Taoism is based on the ancient text known as the Tao Te Ching (loosely translated as The Book of the Way). Surprisingly, this ancient text has much to teach us in the modern world about how to live a life of harmony, peace, and interconnection with all beings. We'll explore a few passages that have uncanny relevance to our lives today.

July 17: **TBD** **Tom Tanguay**

July 24: **Stories from the Archives** **Kate Melchior**

A special welcome to history enthusiasts:

Selected from 14 million pages of paper and thousands of items, Kate Melchior will share her favorites from the extensive collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Come explore the compelling, captivating, and meaningful stories that these treasures from the archives can tell.

July 31: **Summer Sunday Potluck Breakfast**

Join us for a Potluck Breakfast starting at 9:00 on Sunday morning. If it's nice weather, we can feast al fresco on the church lawn.

August 7: **Lughnasadh Ritual** **Our Local Chapter of the Covenant of UU Pagans**

CUUPS will be offering our annual Lughnasadh ritual at beautiful Soule Homestead, 46 Soule Street, Middleboro, at 9:00 a.m. beneath the sunlight and in the company of resident chickens. We will gather in ritual to honor the land which has welcomed us these many years, as well as pay homage to the More Than Human Beings who live on this beautiful locus on Mother Earth. We will share ceremony, prayer, food and drink, and at the end we will have a giveaway of fruits of the earth and of our own labor. We invite you to bring an offering from your own garden, a local farm, or a gift of the heart in the form of art, poetry or handicraft. Join us as we come together held in the loving arms of Mother Earth Herself. All are welcome.

August 14: **Summer Sunday Potluck Breakfast**

Join us for a Potluck Breakfast starting at 9:00 on Sunday morning. If it's nice weather, we can feast al fresco on the church lawn.

August 21: **What Do Children Need?** **Kelly Lownds**

Join Kelly Lownds, our Director of Religious Exploration, for a conversation about the current state of child development at this time as we emerge from the pandemic, and what we can do to help our youth go forward. Ms. Lownds is a social worker and a manager for the state with a wealth of experience in helping children and youth.

August 28: **Summer Sunday Potluck Breakfast**

Join us for a Potluck Breakfast starting at 9:00 on Sunday morning. If it's nice weather, we can feast al fresco on the church lawn.

September 4: Enjoy Labor Day Weekend! Remember to join us for our Ingathering Service at the beginning of the church year on September 11, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.



Sarah's Shindig Rescheduled!
A celebration of

Rev. Sarah Person's Retirement

After TEN years of ministerial service to UU Middleboro,
Rev. Sarah is retiring from her position.

Come join us in person or on-line as we send her off
with good wishes for a long, healthy, and happy retirement.

Sunday, June 26, 2022

The program will begin in the sanctuary at 10:30,
followed by an outdoor reception with light refreshments.

Remote participation will be available via Zoom.

We look forward to you being a part of Sarah's Shindig!

The link for this event will be sent to *UU Updates* subscribers.

Minister's Meditation

Looking Ahead

Dear Friends,

Summer is almost here. As my ministry with you approaches its close, I am grateful that our plans for the coming year are beginning to fall into place. As you know, due to a clergy shortage, we were one of twenty Unitarian Universalist congregations in the U.S. that were not matched with an Interim Minister. Luckily, we have some talented ministers in our area who have had considerable experience offering part-time ministries to congregations like ours. In addition, we have dedicated staff and volunteer leaders who are ready to help with everything we need going forward while we prepare for our next ministries.

This wonderful church has been a haven for us; a place where we can bring what is broken in us, and what brings us joy. At the same time, we know this church exists because of us rather than just for us. It is our effort, our gifts and dreams that make it happen. Thank you for creating this vital community for yourselves and for me. It is time to look to the future with open hearts, mine with yours and with those yet to come.

Blessings,
Rev. Sarah



July and August mark a shift into "Summer Slowdown" where we let go of weekly choir rehearsals and music participation in Sunday services. This is a time to cut back on planning and practicing, to try out new music with no set agenda, to explore without a schedule. The usual hustle and bustle give way to longer and warmer days with sunshine, gardens, and diversion.

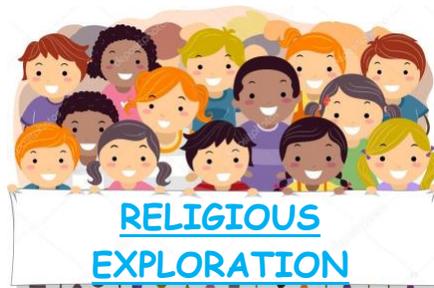
The Chalice Choir takes a much-deserved break over the summer with our annual gathering party scheduled for August 27 and weekly rehearsals starting up again on August 30.

Wherever you go, whatever you do, here's wishing you a summer of sweet song!

Susan Hotchkiss, Director of Music

PLEASE NOTE:

The details in this Newsletter are up-to-date as of the publication, but there may be changes/updates, so be sure to check the weekly "UU Updates" for any updated information. If you are not subscribed to receive the "UU Updates," send an email to office@uumiddleboro.org, and we will add you to the mailing list.



SUMMER 2022

Thank you to everyone who made this year a success! I love being the Director of Religious Exploration, and I'm excited to announce that we rocked it this year!. I'm extremely grateful to everyone who contributed inside and outside the classroom. We were successful in having weekly Sunday School virtually, and by the end of the year we were able to consistently meet together in person. What will next year bring? We will see, but we are all optimistic that it will be mostly in person.

We will have an opportunity this summer to come together and celebrate the great year we had. Look out for an email with more information.

This coming year we will be "exploring beyond our walls." Every day our children go forth into a complex world where they are often faced with difficult decisions and situations. Moral Tales attempts to provide children with the spiritual and ethical tools they will need to make choices and take actions reflective of their Unitarian Universalist beliefs and values. Our youth will explore various types of worship as well and take some "field trips" to other religious services in the area.

We can't do a good job without everyone in church pitching in to support our program! What can you offer to our youth? Are you willing to teach a session for 4 to 6 weeks, work with youth one evening a month or substitute one or two times during the year, offer a special project, become part of the RE Committee? Please email the DRE at dre@uumiddleboro.org to let me know you are interested. I will be reaching out to everyone to ask for any help people are willing to give.

Kelly Lownds, Director of Religious Exploration



HOLIDAY FAIR

Saturday, November 12

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

As announced in *UU Updates* earlier this year, I am chairing a Holiday Craft Fair in the Parish Hall on Saturday, 11/12/22! It will run from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, and tables will be available for all of you crafters to rent - \$25/table. I am also asking table renters to either donate an item to the church table or donate a small portion of your proceeds from the day to the church - we would be most grateful for whatever you can do! I have reserved the Parish Hall on Friday, 11/11 for set up - I will be in the Hall from 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM, so you can come by during that time to set up your table. If you are interested in renting a table, please let me know via email - katieallen57@outlook.com

If you are interested in donating an item for the church's tables (there will be three tables: jewelry, food & crafts); helping set up on Friday, 11/11; working the day of (any amount of time you can spare will be appreciated!); or helping to breakdown afterwards, please email me at katieallen57@outlook.com. All donations for the church tables need to be dropped off on Friday, 11/11.

Thank you so much for any support you can give - it is greatly appreciated!

Katie Allen



VIRTUAL JUST THIS SANGHA

Fridays:

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

August 5, 12, 19, 26

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.



Just This Sangha meets virtually (via Zoom) nearly every Friday evening from 6:00 to 7:30 for silent meditation and sharing of our practice experience. From a Buddhist, particularly Zen, perspective, we focus on bringing practice to daily life; exploring letting go of our usual habitual reactivity and opening to our selves and others as we actually are.

Not a drop-in group, we do welcome potentially new members to join us for a few sessions to see if the group is a good fit. Contact Tom Tanguay at Thisjustthis@gmail.com for more information.

JUSTICE, EQUALITY & PEACE VIGILS



Saturdays:

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

August 6, 13, 20, 27

11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

We will continue scheduling weekly $\frac{1}{2}$ hour vigils on Saturday mornings from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the church lawn. In addition, we will be offering training to help us respond to folks with strong opinions. If you are interested in standing with us but would like the training first, please add your name, but put an X in the first column. All are invited to join in. Sign up for training and/or the vigil by visiting [Vigil Sign-Ups](#).



VIRTUAL FULL MOON MEDITATION

with Natalie Johnson

Wednesday, July 13

6:00 - 6:45 p.m.



This Full Moon falls in the sign of Capricorn, the mythical sea goat. Capricorn is an Earth sign ruled by Saturn, the planet of limitation and tasks. Under its powerful influence, we are being called to gird ourselves against the forces of restraint and negativity and instead, summon the fortitude and resilience to push back against rules and limitation in order to advance our vision of a better world waiting to be born. Just past the celebration of our nation's independence, we are invited to envision a new world in which we ensure that liberty and equanimity for all moves beyond aspiration into reality. We are also cautioned to remember that with freedoms and rights come responsibilities and seek proper balance between the two.

Join us this night as we explore who and what we are and together dream ourselves into what we can be. All are welcome.

The link for this event will be sent to *UU Updates* subscribers.



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Mondays: July 18 & August 15

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

in the Parish Hall



The Book Club will continue to meet during the summer on the third Monday of each month, 5:30 - 6:30 in the Parish Hall.

Our July 18 selection is *The Authenticity Project* by Clare Pooley, and on August 15 we will discuss *America's First Daughter* by Stephanie Dray. Carleen has multiple library copies available each month. For more info, contact her at Carleenml@aol.com

VIRTUAL
PARISH COMMITTEE

Wednesdays: July 20 & August 17 at 6:30 p.m.

All members and friends are invited to attend the Parish Committee meeting. The link for this event will be sent by email to *UU Updates* subscribers.



COME JOIN IN THE FUN!

SNACK & PLAY FUNDRAISER

Saturday, July 23

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Church Lawn and the corner of Nickerson Avenue and Route 105 with other vendors
The Burt Wood School of Performing Arts is hosting a *Sip & Stroll* event on Saturday, July 23, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the Middleboro Town Hall Lawn. There will be more than 80 vendors selling goods and goodies, as well as several food trucks offering delectable delights.

Church will be having a "Snack & Play" area on our lawn, and this time we will also join the event on the Town Hall lawn. We'll be offering popcorn, cold drinks, and other goodies for purchase; an area for kids (of all ages) with games and crafts; and a small rest area with tables and chairs for folks to take a break from all the sipping and strolling. It's a chance for us to be visible to the community and raise a little cash for our Church.

Please plan to come by and hang out and have some fun. We will be asking for help with set up, children's play area, making goodies, selling to the public, and clean up. We hope to make this a good fundraiser. Please email Andrea at andrepriesto@gmail.com to volunteer.



VIRTUAL
NEW MOON MEDITATION

with Natalie Johnson

Thursday, July 28

6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

This New Moon falls in the sign of Leo, that wonderful feline being who exemplifies sunlight, joy, connection and living truly from one's heartspace.

In the *Wizard of Oz*, the Cowardly Lion travels to the Emerald City to petition the Wizard for what he feels he is most lacking.....courage. But he is mistaken. The word "courage" originates from the French word "coeur" which means "the heart". True courage is not bravado, not power over, not bullying nor imposing one's will on another. Instead, it comes from dropping down into one's heart and sourcing the love found there as the wellspring of courage and power and abundant joy.

Join us this night as we invoke this magnificent shaggy being to come and share with us the true source of courage and power that awaits each of us as we gather the tools we will need to bring about a new way of living on Earth. All are welcome.

The link for this event will be sent out to *UU Updates* subscribers.





VIRTUAL
FULL MOON MEDITATION

with Natalie Johnson
Thursday, August 11
6:00 - 6:45 pm

This Full Moon is in the sign of Aquarius who encourages us to dream higher and deeper. We have just stepped into the Age of Aquarius and are only now learning to navigate its terrain. Having recently emerged from 2000 years of the Piscean Age with its emphasis on sacrifice, we are entering into a new era of hope and boundless possibilities.

Join us tonight as we explore some of the ways we can each weave our own talents and gifts into this new tapestry of our becoming. Know that we all called to be the weavers of humanity's destiny. All are welcome.

The link for this event will be sent out to *UU Updates* subscribers.



VIRTUAL
NEW MOON MEDITATION

with Natalie Johnson
Monday, August 29
6:00 - 6:45 p.m.



This New Moon falls in the sign of Virgo, probably one of the most misunderstood signs of the Zodiac. Rather than being a sign of perfectionism and righteousness, Virgo invites us to be all that we can be for our own growth and edification, to strive for that perfection not to please others but to fulfill our own vision of what we came here to be and do, to strive to rise beyond what we think we can be and strive to be more, to fulfill our own soul's journey, no one else's.

Join us this night as we explore what it is we think we came here to do and how we can best accomplish that vision....together. All are welcome.

The link for this event will be sent out to *UU Updates* subscribers.



DATES TO REMEMBER

The church office reopens on [August 16](#).

The new [Newsletter deadline](#) will be the FOURTH MONDAY of every month; this is a **firm deadline**. Any items submitted after that date may be included in the *UU Updates*. The September Newsletter deadline is **August 22, 2022**.

Pastoral Ministry and Parish Care

Our church offers both Pastoral Ministry and Parish Care. If you have something weighing on your mind and would like to talk with a minister, please contact any member of our Pastoral Ministry Team. Parish Care help is available to assist with meals, transportation, emergency babysitting, and hospital visits during illnesses or other family emergencies.

We are a diverse, active and caring community; and we welcome your questions and your participation. You are always invited to call or visit our minister to discuss any matter of concern to you.

Sue Curtiss: Lay Pastoral Ministry Coordinator
Dave Kraemer: Lay Pastoral Minister
Sue St. Germain: Lay Pastoral Minister
Mal Marvill: Parish Care Coordinator

Parish Committee 2022-2023

President: Jim Bonnar
Vice President: Bob Waterman
Treasurer:
Assistant Treasurer:
Parish Clerk: Lois Aldrich
Members At Large: Marc MacQueen
Nicole Sykes



Click here to access the [Church Calendar](#)



Sunday Services

All those who are fully vaccinated are welcome to attend our Sunday services in person. We're doing all we can to ensure the safety of those who attend:

- Masks are required in the church building, except for those who are speaking from the platform.
- All are expected to observe proper distancing of at least three feet.
- Windows will be kept open slightly to enhance ventilation.
- Entry will be by the downstairs parish hall door only. The Nickerson Street door will be kept closed.

With these precautions, we hope to enjoy one another's presence in experiencing worship together. We will continue to watch the trends carefully and adjust our guidelines as needed.



Mission Statement

We seek to provide a sanctuary where people can come together as a community to foster spiritual and personal growth through education and open discussion, to offer the opportunity for meditation and worship, and to serve as a liberal religious voice.

In our interactions with one another, we seek to build a strong community, great with acceptance, appreciation, caring love, respect, tolerance, trust, and forgiveness; to listen to one another and resolve our conflicts peacefully; to sympathize with and show compassion to one another; to express our creativity together; and to delight in fun and friendship.

As a religious community, we strive to help one another in our individual journeys to discover our spiritual selves; to find purpose, self-worth, and peace; to explore moral and ethical questions together; and to inspire, challenge, and to stimulate one another intellectually - with open-mindedness and without judgment.

As individuals and in the larger community, we will speak against injustice and cruelty. We seek to model tolerance and diversity; confront the fear of difference; and thoughtfully address the many difficult problems of our world.

**JULY
2022**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:00 p.m. Virtual Just This Sangha	2 11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn
3 9:00 a.m. General Assembly Service by Zoom only	4 	5 10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 11:00 a.m. Virtual Care Team	6	7 7:00 p.m. Virtual Spirituality Group	8 6:00 p.m. Virtual Just This Sangha	9 11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn
10 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, Parish Hall	11	12 10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 11:00 a.m. Virtual Care Team	13 6:00 p.m. Virtual Full Moon Meditation	14 7:00 p.m. Virtual Spirituality Group	15 6:00 p.m. Virtual Just This Sangha	16 11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn
17 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, Parish Hall	18 5:30 p.m. Book Discussion Group, Parish Hall	19 10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 11:00 a.m. Virtual Care Team	20 6:30 p.m. Virtual Parish Committee	21 7:00 p.m. Virtual Spirituality Group	22 6:00 p.m. Virtual Just This Sangha	23 11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn Sip & Stroll Fundraiser
24 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, Parish Hall	25	26 10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 11:00 a.m. Virtual Care Team	27	28 6:00 p.m. Virtual New Moon Meditation 7:00 p.m. Virtual Spirituality Group	29 6:00 p.m. Virtual Just This Sangha	30 11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn
31 9:00 a.m. Summer Sunday Potluck Breakfast						

AUGUST 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Virtual Care Team</p>	3	4	5	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Virtual Just This Sangha</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Lughnasadh Ritual, Soule Homestead</p>	8	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Virtual Care Team</p>	10	<p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Virtual Full Moon Meditation</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Virtual Spirituality Group</p>	12	<p style="text-align: center;">13</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Virtual Just This Sangha</p>
14	15	<p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Church Office Reopens</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Virtual Care Team</p>	17	18	19	20
<p>9:00 a.m. Summer Sunday Potluck Breakfast</p>	<p>5:30 p.m. Book Discussion Group, Parish Hall</p>		<p>6:30 p.m. Virtual Parish Committee</p>	<p>7:00 p.m. Virtual Spirituality Group</p>	<p>6:00 p.m. Virtual Just This Sangha</p>	<p>11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn</p>
21	22	<p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Virtual Care Team</p>	24	25	26	27
<p>9:00 a.m. Worship Service, Parish Hall</p>	<p>September Newsletter Deadline</p>			<p>7:00 p.m. Virtual Spirituality Group</p>	<p>6:00 p.m. Virtual Just This Sangha</p>	<p>11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn</p>
28	29	30	31			
<p>9:00 a.m. Summer Sunday Potluck Breakfast</p>	<p>6:00 p.m. Virtual New Moon Meditation</p>	<p>11:00 a.m. Virtual Care Team</p>				

UU CAMPS, RETREATS, & CONFERENCES

Our vibrant network of retreat centers, camps, and conferences offer experiences of growth, connection, spirituality, and community throughout the year. Each of these independent camps and centers identifies with Unitarian Universalist (UU) values and traditions. Visit the following New England websites to see their updated offerings.

[The Rowe Center](#)

Rowe Center is an unusual and magical place cherished by thousands of people who come each year for relaxation, education, community, spiritual nurturance, and lots of fun. At Rowe they find a spirit of honesty, creativity, respect, and love. Rowe's summer camps have inspired and delighted kids since 1924. The adult camps have developed over several decades into self-sustaining communities ready to welcome new members.

[Star Island](#)

Star Island is one of the nine Isles of Shoals located seven miles off the coast of New Hampshire and Maine. All are welcome to explore the island for a day, enjoy a meal, spend the night, or attend a conference. For the last 100 years, Star Island has offered an all-inclusive summer camp experience for families and hosted a wide variety of themed conferences and personal retreats. Whether you find yourself mesmerized by the sunset in a rocking chair on the porch, exploring Gosport Harbor in a kayak, or learning about our innovative environmental programs, Star Island is unforgettable.

[Ferry Beach](#)

Ferry Beach Retreat & Conference Center is located on the coast of southern Maine. We offer engaging conferences, retreats, vacations, and youth camp, plus meeting and celebration spaces on our beautiful 32-acre oceanfront campus. Wake up by the sea in our quaint cottages and halls or at our campsites in the Grove. Our relaxed campus features a sand volleyball court, two playgrounds, an art studio, fire pit, outdoor chapel, and of course, the beach! Our dining hall provides healthy, delicious food and good coffee—no shopping, cooking, or cleaning necessary. And since this is Maine, lobsters are available every week!

