



THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF MIDDLEBOROUGH

25 South Main Street, Middleborough, MA 02346

<https://uumiddleboro.org>

508-947-1935

March 2024

*We offer in-person and online worship services at 10:30 a.m.
The link to each service will be posted on our website every week.*

Sunday, March 3
Jeff Giddings presenting
Life in a Generous Universe

If we are mindful and not wasteful, somehow we often receive what we need. A deep awareness of this cosmic generosity affects the way we feel about the world and other people. Bet Giddings will provide a musical offering and Patty Simon's recorder quartet will provide special music. The service will include a special announcement from Gil Cote about this year's Pledge Drive. Special music will be provided by Bet Giddings (piano and vocal) PLUS an "Early Music Ensemble" featuring recorders, crumhorn, and viola da gamba. Quartet players include Patty Simon, Denise Haskins, Polly Jacobson, and Cindy Lincoln.

This morning we welcome Jeff Giddings to the pulpit. Jeff is a longtime member of this church and now serves as Assistant Treasurer, member of the Finance Committee and the Parish Committee, weekly live-stream operator, and co-leader of the Spirit & Meaning Group. He is also on the board of the Matthew Mission Food Pantry in Taunton, MA.

Sunday, March 10
Rev. Peter Connolly preaching
Bringing Our Values to Life

Today, we'll look at the many ways we at UU Middleboro embody the values we claim and look, too, at ways we can more fully grow into the values captured in our Seven Principles. Special music will be provided throughout the service by Erik Lindgren on piano. Ed Priest (guitar and vocal) will share a musical offering.

Sunday, March 17
Rev. Peter Connolly preaching
Women's History: Gains and Goals

Women's History month presents us with an opportunity to look back on the gains we've experienced in women's rights, even in our lifetimes, while recognizing that in some respects, there is still a long way to go to reach full equality. The Chalice Choir will be singing *Blessing*, a choral arrangement based on the traditional Irish Blessing.

Sunday, March 24
Valerie Fontaine presenting
Palm Sunday: Can It Speak to Us UU's?

Please join Valerie in an exploration of potential lessons and revelations that might hold meaning for our lives today. Special music will be provided by Dan Hotchkiss.

This morning we welcome Valerie Fontaine to the pulpit. Valerie is a longtime member of this church and sings with the Chalice Choir. She is also a member and past chair of the Music Committee and was instrumental in having the handicapped accessible door installed.

Easter Sunday, March 31
Rev. Peter Connolly preaching
Passover, Ostara, Easter

The Pagan, Jewish and Christian traditions all celebrate holy days in the Spring in the Northern Hemisphere. Today, we'll look at how the traditions developed and how they can inform our spiritual journeys. The Chalice Choir will be singing.

A Note from the Minister

My friends in South Central Kentucky have been posting pictures of flowers, crocuses and daffodils, on their social media pages for weeks now. Here in southeastern Massachusetts, we've been watching the snow melt ever so slowly over that same period of time. Now February has come to an end, and March holds the promise of Spring, a real Spring "with flowers and everything" as the youngest among us might say.

By the end of the month, Spring will have made real progress. There will be more light in the day each and every day, earlier sunrises and later sunsets. We will be encouraged to look toward the future. And that's a good thing because by the end of the month, too, we expect that we will know the name of the church's next minister; and that person and this church will begin the process of partnership, establishing priorities for the coming year and years to come, getting to know patterns, tendencies, preferences, and idiosyncrasies so as to establish a productive and mutually respectful relationship.

I still have four months to serve as your interim minister, and I hope that they, too, will be productive months. We've come a long way towards adopting a church covenant statement, one based on long held beliefs mostly captured in a different form, a lengthy mission statement from years past. We've made progress toward establishing an organizational chart which will give us all, especially newcomers, a way to understand who is responsible for what and which will encourage smoother operating procedures. The Parish Committee has been holding extra meetings over the past many months to learn more about how governance works in churches of various sizes. Dan Hotchkiss's book *Governance and Ministry* has been central in guiding that understanding.

The Public Relations Team has come together in an exciting way with Bet Giddings volunteering to be the point person for communication and "getting the word out" about our many interesting, enjoyable and exciting activities. Susan Hotchkiss has been very active in pulling together a night of jazz which will enliven our church in April-- as well as leading us in music and song each week throughout the year. The various committees responsible for the church's finances-- stewardship, investment, the treasurer, the pledge campaign coordinators-- have been meeting together under the umbrella of the newly created Finance Committee.

Many things have come together to help us understand our various roles better and streamline our processes. And the Worship Committee has filled every slot for summer worship already! A bright Spring awaits! And then, Summer! Much to appreciate, much to anticipate, much to encourage our continued support of this multifaceted spiritual endeavor. Much to be grateful for.

I look forward to our continued work together and to seeing you in church!

Peter



On April 6, we have a unique opportunity to hear a world-class jazz concert right in our church! Our former music director, Jeannie Gagné, will be joined by Stan Strickland, Bruce Gertz, and Alberto Netto, all globe-trotting Berklee jazz artists.

Anticipating our jazz concert, I've been thinking about Leonard Bernstein's lectures to young people about music. He debunks the idea of "Classical Music" as static, long-haired, boring, or (worst yet) DEAD. He defines Classical Music as composed European music from about 1750 to 1820. Before that, historically, were Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque music. After Classical were the Romantic, 20th and 21st century periods.

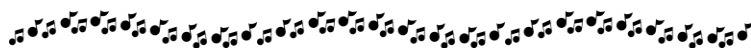
Bernstein calls this large body of music "Exact," because it is notated and preserved in history. We performers do our best to play Exact music just as it was written—to honor the composer and provide a bridge back through the centuries.

By contrast, Jazz—an American art form shared throughout the world—is sometimes written down, but it's hard to notate or read its highly complex syncopation. Most Jazz is loosely notated and not meant to be "exact." A performer will take a jazz tune and "riff" from it, creating something expansive and unique to the moment in which it is performed. A group of jazz players pass the solo spots around. The players improvise, and the audience applauds during the performance to appreciate the artistry of each soloist. Jazz is a very creative, complex, liberating art form!

On April 6, Jazz Music Night will start at 7:30 p.m., and we hope to pack the house for a rousing success! Tickets are available online through our website: www.uumiddleboro.org. Early-bird special is \$20 online through March 20, then \$25 online and \$30 at the door.

Here's to music, both exact and improvised!

Susan Hotchkiss, Director of Music



SONG CIRCLE

Friday, March 8 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Parish Hall

We hope you will join us for this fun night of music, sponsored by the Church and open to the public! We start at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck of hearty snacks in the Parish Hall, so bring along a favorite treat to share. A circle of chairs will be set up along with a portable keyboard, and we will provide some percussion instruments. Participants can bring their own guitars, ukuleles, dulcimers, etc., or just their voices – hands for clapping and feet for stomping!

At 6:30, join folks who enjoy getting together with others to sing – no particular expertise required, the point is having fun and learning! This is a shared activity sponsored by the Church and open to the community at large. So invite your friends!

The Song Circle meets on the second Friday of each month. RSVP to andrepriesto@gmail.com so we can add your chair to the circle! Hope to see you there!

Bet Giddings, Andrea Priest, Ed Priest

JAZZ MUSIC NIGHT

The poster features a blue background. At the top left, the words "JAZZ MUSIC NIGHT" are written in large, bold, yellow capital letters with a slight 3D effect. To the right of the text is a graphic of a spiral piano keyboard that curves upwards and to the right, with musical notes floating around it. Below the main title, the date and time "APRIL 6, 2024 AT 7.30 PM" are written in white capital letters. Underneath that, the text "WITH JAZZ WORLD TRAVELERS:" is in yellow. A list of performers follows: "Jeannie Gagné ~ piano/vocals", "Stan Strickland ~ sax/flute/vocals", "Bruce Gertz ~ bass", and "Alberto Netto ~ drums/percussion", all in white. Below the list, the ticket prices "Tickets \$25 online, \$30 at the door" are shown in white. The venue "UU MIDDLEBORO, 25 SOUTH MAIN ST." is written in yellow. At the bottom left, there are three small square photos: a man playing a double bass, a man playing a saxophone, and a man playing drums. At the bottom right, there is a logo for the "Mass Cultural Council" and the website "uumiddleboro.org" is mentioned in white text.

UU Middleboro presents "Jazz Music Night" on **Saturday, April 6, at 7:30 p.m.** The concert will take place in the Sanctuary featuring a Boston-area jazz quartet headed up by Jeannie Gagné (piano and vocals) and Stan Strickland (sax, flute, and vocals). They will be joined by Bruce Gertz (bass) and Alberto Netto (drums/percussion). The performers are faculty at Berklee College of Music and experienced international performing artists.

The program features a broad collection of jazz music ranging from favorite standards to originals as well as classics drawn from more than 100 years of Jazz. These four talented performers are

putting together an evening to be remembered.

Tickets can be purchased online through the UU Middleboro website: www.uumiddleboro.org. Early-bird special is \$20 through March 20, then \$25 online and \$30 at the door.

UU Middleboro is located at 25 South Main Street with ample parking across the street at Town Hall. The main entrance is up the stairs facing South Main Street. Handicapped access is available by the ground-floor entrance on the right, with an elevator up to the Sanctuary level. All are welcome.

This program is supported in part by grants from Middleborough Cultural Council and Lakeville Arts Council, local agencies which are supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



Please consider joining us for one of our RE classes. We have a nursery with two babysitters each week for young children and infants as well as a Religious Exploration class for children. We are a small but mighty group and welcome all newcomers. If your children are older, we have a youth group that meets twice monthly on Sunday evenings. All our children this year are "Building Bears of Wholeness" and collecting badges that support our values. There are always new bears for newcomers no matter the age or how long they join us!

Religious Exploration Classes

The children collected their first "I am" badge and reviewed the meaning of "threshold" and being welcoming. Additional badges will be offered every other week to ensure the children obtain the 16 badges for the lessons they had this year. They are inserting the badges into their build-a-bears. Next month we will be talking about legacies and some of our Unitarian Universalist heroes.

Nursery During the Worship Service

Nursery is still being led by Niko Pucillo-Dunphy, who receives support from Jesse Hoyle as the second in charge. We have two toddlers and are always ready to welcome more young children/infants if they are interested in joining us on a Sunday morning.

Our Whole Lives

OWL has 3 - 5 youths and is going very well. We had our panel on February 4 and class again on February 11. The group has changed its meeting dates this month to March 3 and March 17 to accommodate schedules. This is a closed group that will be offered again in a couple of years for youth in 7th- 9th grades.

RE Committee

The RE Committee is meeting on Wednesday, March 6, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parlor. The current committee members are Christine Hoyle, Chris Dargelis and Kelly Lownds. New members are welcome. Please reach out to dre@uumiddleboro.org if you are interested in helping our group.

Youth Group

Youth Group will be meeting on March 11 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. We will finish our air mural and will install the earth and air mural components. We will also be enjoying pizza and cookies.

Kelly Lownds, Director of Religious Exploration



Our congregation's March Cash in the Plate (CIP) will be donated to Brockton based **Health Imperatives** that has as its mission "to improve the health and well-being of low-income, vulnerable people in Southeastern Massachusetts." Because March includes a fifth Sunday this year, the proceeds of the CIP that day (3/31) will be given to the Mashpee based **Native Land Conservancy**, a Native led land conservancy that is working to purchase additional land to expand the conservancy.

Looking ahead, our team has been researching how our congregation can maximize its impact on the critical 2024 elections. We've reviewed non-profit organizations that can help us increase both voter turnout and knowledge of the issues voters need to know when casting their votes. And on the first Sunday in April (4/7), we will present opportunities that we believe can offer all of us effective ways to become engaged and have a significant impact on our democracy at local, state and federal levels.

Bill Howe and the Social Justice Team

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### CAN YOU HELP?

Middleboro resident and business owner Jim Lane and his wife were on a very well-deserved cruise when a fire broke out and their house burned down. His home and all their possessions were destroyed in a 2:00 a.m. fire on February 24 here in Middleboro. In addition, one of his young daughters died. They now have nothing ... and are homeless.

Jim owns and works three businesses, including FastLane Gadget in Taunton. Jim would give you the shirt off his back ... he's that kind of guy.

A GoFundMe page has been created with the goal of raising \$100,000. Please show how Middleboro rallies behind one of its own.

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/dx542-please-donate-to-help-this-family?utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp+share-sheet&utm\\_content=facebook\\_cta\\_variant\\_v2&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=facebook](https://www.gofundme.com/f/dx542-please-donate-to-help-this-family?utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_content=facebook_cta_variant_v2&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook)

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THE ELSIE GAUDETTE AWARD

The Elsie Gaudette Award can be given this spring (the third Sunday in June) to a person who exemplifies the service and dedication to this church that Elsie did for many years. The Elsie Gaudette Award Committee will be meeting to review the nominations.

If you know of a deserving person to nominate for this award, you must nominate her/him in writing, telling of this person's contributions to the church over time and why this person deserves the honor. Send your signed letters to the Committee Chairperson, Linda E. Thompson.



PUBLICITY FOR YOUR CHURCH EVENT

Are you thinking of organizing a special church event such as a yard sale, auction, holiday fair, brunch or dinner, talent show, concert, play, folk night, workshop, lecture, or other fun or educational activity?

UU Middleboro now has an active Public Relations Committee to help you publicize your event both within the church and in the wider community! Current committee members are Rev. Peter Connolly (chair), Andrea Priest, Bet Giddings, and Holly Begley. Contact us directly at pr@uumiddleboro.org as soon as you begin your planning, and we will gladly help you get the word out to boost your attendance.

We will help you with tips on:

- planning your event,
- scheduling it on the church calendar at a time that best fits in with other church activities,
- putting together photos, graphic art, and text/copy to be used by the PR team.

We can:

- design a flyer for your unique event and post it around the church and around town at popular locations such as the library, town hall, council on aging, YMCA, and local supermarkets.
- post your flyer, photos, and information on social media, including Facebook and Instagram. Make sure to “Like” and “Share” FUUSM Facebook posts to spread the word!
- work with you to write an article or notice for local print and digital media, such as *Nemasket Week*, *Middleborough News*, *The Brockton Enterprise*, *Taunton Gazette*, *Plymouth Old Colony Memorial*, and other papers.
- get a public service announcement on the local cable access TV stations
- share your notice with our sister churches throughout the region.

We have connections! And we want to help you get connected in the community, too!

We welcome inquiries and requests for assistance. Contact us at pr@uumiddleboro.org.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

Saturday Night, March 9

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour tonight!



NEW MOON MEDITATION

on Zoom

with Natalie Johnson

Monday, March 11

6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/94390724348>



Tonight's New Moon falls in the sign of Pisces, which has the energetic imprint of dreaming, peacemaking, altruism and high ideals as well as the tendency toward self sacrifice in service to the greater good.

We are just now leaving the Age of Pisces, seeded by the person of Jesus the Christ who is believed to have made the ultimate sacrifice for the redemption of humankind. As we now stand on the threshold of the Age of Aquarius, we are learning that such sacrifice is no longer needed. Instead, we are being encouraged to manifest what we desire by moving ideas from the mind down into and through the heart, potentizing them with the energies of love before sending them out into the world. We are being invited to take a quantum leap spiritually, thus achieving greater coherence when we sync our intellect with our heartspace. It is new territory for most of us and takes mindfulness and a bit of practice, but it is a powerful ally in bringing about the kind of world we all want to live in.

Please join us tonite as we explore these ideas and practice together how it feels to lead from our hearts. (Spoiler: it feels *really*, really good....)

All are welcome.



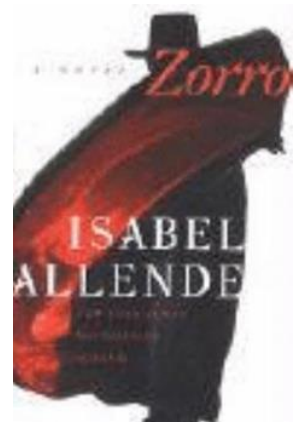
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

on Zoom

Monday, March 18 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

We are continuing in the tradition of meeting and discussing various genres of books. We continue to meet on the third Monday of the month from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. We are meeting on Zoom this month. The link will be sent to Book Club members a day or two before the meeting. Please contact Lois Aldrich (lois.aldrich63@gmail.com) if you would like to receive the Zoom link. New and old members are welcome.

The book we are reading for March is *Zorro* by Isabel Allende. If you enjoy reading, please pick up the book and join us!



CRANBERRY CIRCLE COVENANT OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST PAGANS (CUUPS)



Cranberry Circle Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) was formed in 2003 at the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough, MA. It is an eclectic, open group of Earth-Centered pagans that encourages education and diversity. Its general Pagan beliefs fit in with the UU Principles and purposes.

Our rituals, circles, meditations and celebrations are open to the public, although for prudence's sake we insist that all people attending be at least 18 years of age or accompanied by a parent or legal guardian and that all respect our rules.

We provide support to all seeking to live a life more in balance with Nature by exploring the teachings and traditions of various Pagan and Earth-Centered religions and philosophies.



CUUPS OSTARA RITUAL

Monday, March 18

7:00 p.m.

in the Parish Hall

The Wheel of the Year has turned once again. Although climate change has made our New England winters seem milder and less snowy, the gloom and dreariness of cold, rainy days, howling winds and heavier snows when they came still made winter a challenge for all beings in the Web of Life.



The first, tentative stirrings of Imbolc have led us here to the Vernal Equinox, or Ostara, when life begins to burst forth in earnest all around us. The crocus and first shoots of daffodils are visible, and groundhogs and bunnies are nibbling the grasses. The immense fertility, regenerative power and sheer beauty of Mother Earth makes itself known in all the kingdoms of nature. From now until Solstice, the sun will rise stronger and travel higher across the sky each day. It is a time to rejoice in the rebirth of all creation and be reminded that we live on a generous planet who provides us with all we need to thrive and be happy. There is enough abundance and beauty to nourish us all in both body and spirit.

We invite you to join us as we celebrate this joyous and blessed time. As always, you are welcome to bring a poem or reflection to share. We will conclude with a simple feast. All are welcome.



PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, March 20 6:30 p.m.

Parish Hall

All members and friends are invited to attend the Parish Committee meeting.

FULL MOON MEDITATION
on Zoom
with Natalie Johnson
Monday, March 25
6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/92947280150>

Tonight's Full Moon falls in the sign of Libra. Having just passed the Vernal Equinox, we have explored the themes of balance and equilibrium - the time when the hours of light and dark are perfectly equal. From this point on until the Summer Solstice in June, the sun will set later each night until it reaches its zenith on June 20.

We are reminded of the Wheel of the Year, the cycles of life, and the perfect synchronicity of Creation as it is evidenced in the natural world. Life is cyclical, all is born, grows to full fruition, then gradually withers and dies but leaves seeds to lay the groundwork for the next generation to follow. When all life is in balance, harmony exists. Right now, human life is very much out of balance. We have lost our connection to the way life works; we have misplaced the blueprint for how to be human on this planet, of how to be in balance with the rest of life. We have forgotten who we are.

On this night of the Full Moon in Libra, we will explore the ways we have stepped off the path and consider how to return to right relationship with All That Is.

Please come join us. All are welcome.



Pastoral Ministry and Parish Care

The Pastoral Ministry Team seeks to listen with empathy to concerns of members of the congregation via phone, in-person conversations, or home/hospital visits, honoring privacy and confidentiality within the team.

The Pastoral Ministry Team Members are:
Rev. Peter Connolly (revconnolly@gmail.com)

Sue Curtiss
Sue St. Germain
Dave Kraemer
Mal Marvill

Parish Care: When the Pastoral Ministry Team identifies the need for short term assistance with meals, errands, rides, or more, for members of the congregation, the Parish Care Coordinator, Mal Marvill, contacts the meals coordinator or rides coordinator to enlist volunteers.

Parish Committee

President:	Jim Bonnar
Vice President:	Viola Fairweather
Treasurer:	Marc MacQueen
Assistant Treasurer:	Jeff Giddings
Parish Clerk:	Lois Aldrich
Members At Large:	Stephen Larrett
	Position Open



Our Mission:

To create and sustain a welcoming and caring community that embodies our UU principles, inspires spiritual growth without dogma or creed, and promotes and serves racial and social justice.

PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING (Virtual)

February 21, 2024

Present: Lois Aldrich, Jim Bonnar, Stephen Larrett, Jeff Giddings, Marc MacQueen, Viola Fairweather, Rev. Peter Connolly

Guests: Kelly Lownds, Susan Hotchkiss

Meeting called to order by Jim Bonnar at 6:36 p.m.

Opening Words: Rev. Peter Connolly read the church's Mission Statement.

Go Around

Consent Agenda:

Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the 1/17/24 PC meeting were approved.

Reports:

Treasurer: Marc MacQueen informed the PC that he is having knee surgery on March 15 and may need help with some of the Treasurer duties for a few weeks. Jeff Giddings offered to work with Marc on this. Discussion of budget (see Discussion Agenda below).

Minister's Report: Rev. Peter Connolly distributed his report which PC approved.

Social Justice Report: The meeting minutes from the Social Justice Team (SJT) were forwarded to the PC for review. The SJT is asking for an update on signage, which had previously been a concern when the SJT was looking to set up a Peace Pole in the church yard. The SJT is seeking approval to work with the Middleboro Rotary Club to have a Peace Pole installed in the front yard. Discussion regarding whether or not the PC supports having a Peace Pole in the church yard, where it would be located, what it would look like, and what value having a Peace Pole brings to the church. The PC asked that the SJT provide a proposal to the PC that would respond to these concerns. Public Relations will also be consulted. Lois Aldrich will relay this request to the SJT at their next meeting.

Signage issue would typically be addressed by Public Relations (PR) and Building & Grounds. However, the lead of the B & G Committee has had health concerns and is not available to coordinate. The main issue has been the lack of visibility of the brown sign on the front lawn, especially at night. Solar lights can address this. Stephen Larrett said he has found a product with a single solar collector that can do the job. The PC approved the \$80 for Stephen to purchase the lighting as well as lumber to set it up. Stephen will work with Jim Bonnar, Alan Melchior, and PR to install the lighting.

RE: Kelly Lownds emailed her report to the PC. No issues reported.

Discussion Agenda:

Budget: The 2024-25 Budget submitted by Marc MacQueen and Jeff Giddings was reviewed and approved. Annual expenditures projected to be \$218,965. This amount includes 3% raise for staff, \$15,000 for major repairs (long term), and an increase of \$5,000 to the minister salary package. Minister salary for July is not included in the budget. Pledge goal as stated in budget is ~\$187,000, an increase of 11% from this year's pledge goal.

Mailboxes: Susan Hotchkiss informed the PC that some people have been asking about their church mailboxes, which were dismantled during renovations. We have been moving away from mailboxes, especially because most communications are done via email. However, there may be some people who

could use mailboxes due to the nature of their work with the church (for example, Treasurer, PC President, Committee Chairs, etc.). Susan proposes using the double door closet on the Nickerson Ave. side with a container that would hold 12 mailboxes. Jim Bonnar offered to build a mailbox structure that would take less space. Who gets a mailbox would need to be determined. Treasurer will continue to get his mail in the Office Administrator's office, which is locked after hours.

Policies and Procedures:

Rental of Church Facilities Policy; Rental Fee Schedule: Rev. Peter asked the PC to approve the two policies, which incorporate comments previously made by the PC. The PC approved the revised policies.

Alcohol Use Policy: Stephen completed revisions to this policy, which were discussed and approved by the PC.

Parish Committee/Governance (Folder #2): Vi Fairweather provided a summary of her review of policies and procedures related to Parish Committee/Governance. As there are many policies listed in Folder #2, including some that do not exist but may need to be developed, Rev. Peter suggested that, for now, the PC review policies that are currently in place and need revisions. Vi agreed to put together policies that meet these criteria for review and discussion at the next in-person PC meeting (March 20).

One of the policies that will need to be addressed is related to the church's newsletter. The newsletter is currently made available to the congregation via *UU Updates* as well as being posted on the Church's website. In addition, the Office Administrator, Valarie Ortelt, prints hard copies of the newsletter and mails it to a handful of congregants. Given that Val's workload has increased considerably, the PC agreed to consider no longer mailing hard copies of the newsletter. The PC agreed to seek further input from the congregation on this matter in the near future.

Minister's Agenda:

Organizational Chart: The PC agreed to review the Organizational Chart at our next in-person PC meeting (March 20). Rev. Peter will email the most recent draft of the Organizational Chart to PC members prior to the meeting. All agreed it is important to have the chart finalized before a new minister is aboard.

Pledge Drive: Pledge goal for 2024-25 will be \approx \$187,000. Pledge team, including Stewards, is scheduled to meet Sunday, February 25, at 12:15 in Parish Hall to prepare for the drive, which kicks off on March 3.

Governance Meeting: The next Governance meeting is scheduled for March 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Jim will contact Dan Hotchkiss to see if he is available to attend the meeting to assist us in determining which policies mentioned in the appendix of his book would be most important for our church to develop and implement.

Going-Away Party for Rev. Peter: Vi Fairweather proposed that the congregation have a going-away party for Rev. Peter on Sunday, June 23, to say goodbye and to thank him for shepherding us during this interim period. The party would take the place of Sunday worship. The PC unanimously approved this proposal.

Next PC Meeting: March 20, 2024 in-person

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by *Lois Aldrich*, Parish Clerk

MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					1:00 p.m. Organ Practice, Sanctuary	10:00 a.m. Flute Rehearsal, Sanctuary 10:00 a.m. Poor People's Campaign Rally, Boston 11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Exploration 12:30 p.m. Humanist Voices, Parish Hall 12:30 p.m. OWL Class, Parlor	10:00 a.m. Follow-Up to Poor People's Rally, Boston	7:00 a.m. Primary Election 10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 11:00 a.m. Lay Ministry on Zoom 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Parish Hall	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline, Church Office 4:00 p.m. Meditation Group, Parlor 6:30 p.m. RE Committee, Parlor 6:30 p.m. Governance Meeting, Parish Hall 6:30 p.m. be;, Bridgewater 7:00 p.m. Music Committee on Zoom		11:00 a.m. Real Talk Series, Taunton 1:00 p.m. Organ Practice, Sanctuary 4:30 p.m. Social Justice Team on Zoom 6:00 p.m. Song Circle, Parish Hall	11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn Turn your clocks ahead one hour tonight. 
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Exploration 12:30 p.m. Humanist Voices, Parlor	6:00 p.m. New Moon Meditation on Zoom	10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 11:00 a.m. Lay Ministry on Zoom 12:00 noon UUMA Immigrant Justice Online 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Parish Hall	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline, Church Office 4:00 p.m. Meditation Group, Parlor 7:00 p.m. Music Committee on Zoom	5:30 p.m. Dear Black Women, Online 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee on Zoom	1:00 p.m. Organ Practice, Sanctuary	11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service & RE 12:30 p.m. OWL Class, Parlor 12:30 p.m. Humanist Voices, Parish Hall 5:00 p.m. Youth Group, Parish Hall	3:30 p.m. Book Discussion Group on Zoom 7:00 p.m. CUIUPS Ostara Ritual, Parish Hall	10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 11:00 a.m. Lay Ministry on Zoom 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Parish Hall	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline, Church Office 4:00 p.m. Meditation Group, Parlor 6:30 p.m. Parish Committee, Parish Hall	4:00 p.m. Fake and Fatal, Middleboro Town Hall	1:00 p.m. Organ Practice, Sanctuary 4:30 p.m. Social Justice Team Meeting on Zoom	11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Exploration 2:00 p.m. Religious Exploration, Parish Hall	April Newsletter Deadline, Church Office 6:00 p.m. Full Moon Meditation on Zoom	10:00 a.m. Peaceful Quilters, Parish Hall 11:00 a.m. Lay Ministry on Zoom 7:00 p.m. Chalice Choir Rehearsal, Parish Hall	12:00 noon Order of Service Deadline, Church Office 4:00 p.m. Meditation Group, Parlor		1:00 p.m. Organ Practice, Sanctuary	11:30 a.m. Peace Vigil, Church Lawn
31						
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Religious Exploration						



Introducing GA Cohort Groups

A cohort gathering is an opportunity for individuals to come together with UU peers, forming a supportive community that shares common goals, interests, or experiences. These engaging and enriching gatherings will allow participants to connect, collaborate, and learn from one another in a unique, focused setting. Participants can choose between attending a Cohort Gathering in the morning or afternoon, depending on what works best for your time zone and schedule. Access a network that can propel your personal and professional growth, provide valuable knowledge and insights, and help you to forge relationships during GA.

These sessions will not be recorded. All GA registrants are welcome to join Cohorts when the GA event app, Whova, opens in June. Visit [GA Cohort Groups](#) for more information.

[GA Schedule](#)

